Medioppia centrodentata sp. n. (Acarina, Oribatei, Oppiidae) from Bulgaria

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Medioppia centrodentata sp. n. is described from the Pirin mountains, Bulgaria. It differs from the other species of *Medioppia* in the form and size of the medial tooth on the rostrum, the form of the tubercles and bothridia, the central base of the prodorsum and the hairs on epimeron IV.

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Subias & Minguez (1985) created the genus *Medioppia* with *Oppia media*, Michelcic 1956 as the type species. They included 12 species in the genus, one of them new, *Medioppia tridentata*, Subias 1985. Later, Subias & Minguez (1988) described *Medioppia minidentata*, Subias 1988. All the species of the genus are Palaearctic. This paper describes a new species from the same region.

In the description of the chaetotaxy and other characters, we follow Balogh's (1972, 1983) terminology, as is also indicated in Fig. 1. The two illustrations have been made with the aid of a camera lucida attached to a slide microscope.

Medioppia centrodentata sp. n.

Type material: Holotype ♂, Bulgaria, Pirin mountains, Sandanski area 9.5.1987, beech litter, 1000 m above sea level S. Koponen leg. In Zoological Museum, University of Turku, Finland. Paratypes: 1 female and 2 males, with the same data and deposition as the holotype.

Diagnosis: *Medioppia centrodentata* can be distinguished from the closely related *Medioppia tridentata* and *M. media* by the form and size of the medial tooth on the rostrum, by the form of the tubercles and bothridia, by the central base of the prodorsum and by the hairs on epimeron IV. In addition, *Medioppia centrodentata* differs from *M. media* in the longitudinal ridges on the outside of the bothridia and in the position of hairs *in*, and from *M. tridentata* in the ratio of the lengths of hairs *ro* and *in* and in the shorter distances between the lamellar setae.

Description: Dorsal and ventral side, Fig. 1. Colour light brown. Microsculpture absent. Total length 0.382 mm, breadth of notogaster 0.181 mm.

Prodorsum. Rostrum with three teeth, the medial being the largest and most developed. Frontal part more than half the length of prodorsum. Rostral hairs (*ro*) situated behind the incision, slightly curved and with small cilia. Lamellar hairs (*le*) very short, thin and situated behind the level of pedotecta I. Exobothridial hairs (*ex*) situated on the top of longitudinal ridges. Hairs *ex* as long as hairs *ro* and curved. Bothridia like horseshoe in form. Sensilli (ss) pectinate. Their heads only slightly enlarged, continued without interruption to the stalks. External margins with setae of diverse lengths; the shortest hairs situated on

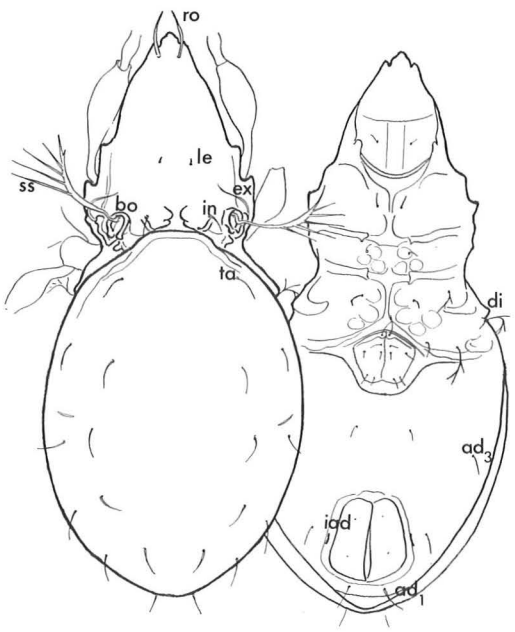

Fig. 1. *Medioppia centrodentata* sp. n. (holotype), dorsal and ventral side.

top of sensilli, the heads of which are as long as the longest hairs. Behind bothridia tubercles clearly visible. Interlamellar setae (*in*) situated inside the top of tubercles between bothridia. The length of hairs *in* only one third of the length of hairs *ro*. Hairs *in* thin. Longitudinal bridge on the middle base of the interlamellar region on prodorsum. Lamellae and costulae absent.

Notogaster oval. One pair of cristae, which are visible only in lateral view. Ten pairs of thin hairs. Hairs *ta* present and as long as the other notogastral hairs.

Ventral side. Posterior margin of epimeral shields IV very sclerotic, and without denticles. All epimeral hairs long, clearly visible. 6 pairs of genital setae, 1 pair of aggenital setae and 3 pairs of adanal setae. Setae ad_3 in preanal position and setae ad_1 in postanal position. Pori *iad* in adanal position. Discidious (*di*) rounded.

Note. Dubinina et al. (1966) recorded *Oppia fallax* var. *obsoleta* Paoli, 1908 from the nests of rodents in Bulgaria. According to their picture, this species is not *Oppia fallax* var. *obsoleta*, but *Medioppia centrodentata*.

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