

**REVIEW OF QUILL MITES OF THE FAMILY SYRINGOPHILIDAE**

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The family *Syringophilidae* is a part of order *Acariformes*, suborder *Trombidiformes*. This mites inhabit the feathers quills. They have prick-suctorial type of mouth and feed on blood and lymph of host. In the case of the mass infection by syringophilid mites, birds become ill with disease called "chicken scab" - birds pull out the infected feathers because the bites of mites cause a strong itch. At molting the impregnated females abandon quills and infect new growing feathers. The enemies of syringophilid mites - mites of the family *Cheyletidae*, which also inhabit in quills and feed with syringophilid mites and feather mites of the family *Syringobiidae*.



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For first time the family *Syringophilidae* was described by Lavoipierre in 1953, but some mites were known already from the end of 18<sup>th</sup> century. However, scientists began serious study of these mites only in the 70s of 20<sup>th</sup> century. Before that time very limited number of papers, generally related to the search of place of this family in the general system of mites were published [Lavoipierre, 1953; Dubinin, 1957]. But number of known syringophilid mites was about 20-30 species.

The organizing work in the question of study of syringophilid mites is the revision of the family *Syringophilidae* by American acarologist John Kethley [1970]. The splash of interest to this group is observed approximately from 1995, when the article by the post graduate students of Zoological department of the Mechnikov university was published [Kivganov, Sharafat, 1995]. Then, unfortunately, works in Ukraine on this group were kept indoors, but the great number of works was published by Russian and Polish acarologists. In this paper annually described are a few new for species and genuses of syringophilid mites.

Mainly, in this paper described are mites from passeriform birds, parrots and some other orders of birds.

During 2000-2007 years during the inspection of waders of limans of Odessa region, on the 5 wader species (Redshank *Tringa totanus*, Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*, Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*, Dunlin *Calidris alpina*, Little Stint *Calidris minutus*) 5 species of quill mites, related to three genuses: *Creagonycha*, *Selenonycha*, *Nyglarobia* were found.

Genus *Creagonycha* is represented by three species, genuses *Selenonycha* and *Nyglarobia* – by one species.

Only mites from Redshank *Tringa totanus* were identified to belong the species (*Creagonycha totani*), the signs of other species do not coincide with present in literature descriptions.