A New Species of the Genus *Peloribates* from Japan  
(Acari: Oribatida)

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日本産マルコソデダニ属の一新種

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Synopsis

A new species of oribatid mites, *Peloribates haramachiensis* sp. n., is described from Kamimachi Bog in Haramachi City, northeastern Japan. The new species is characterized by long and whip-like notogastral setae, pointed rostrum and poorly developed bothridial scales.

"Kamimachi Shicchi" is a small bog which remained in the middle of residential area of Haramachi City because of its unsuitableness for housing. In this small preserved area spring water is gushing out and sustaining a natural vegetation of *Alnus japonica* community.

From the wet litter accumulation around *Alnus* trees thirty-three species of oribatid mites were collected, containing a new species described below.

*Peloribates haramachiensis* sp. n.

(Figs.1-6)

**Measurement.** Body length: 365-395 \(\mu\)m, width: 252-310 \(\mu\)m.

**Prodosum.** Rostrum with a weak protrusion and pointed at tip. Prodorsal setae weakly barbed; setae \(le = 1.6\sim1.8 \times ro, in = 2.2\sim2.4 \times ro;\) setae in longer than their mutual distance. Bothridial scale poorly developed, never well protruding beyond opening of bothridium (Fig. 3). Sensillus with a thin peduncle and an elongately clavate head barbed and rounded at tip (Fig. 3). Prodorsal surface sculptured with small and indistinct foveolae.

**Notogaster.** Anterior margin slightly arched. Notogastral setae long and whip-like, weakly barbed, pointed at tip; RLN (relative length to notogaster) of the setae: 30.0\sim39.0 (34.0 in average), difference in length among them being very small; setae \(dm\) slightly longer and setae of \(p\)-series a little shorter than the remainder. Mutual distances of the setae: \(ps-\prec ps, c_{1}-c_{1} < da-da = dm-dm \prec dp-dp \prec h_{1}-h_{1}\). Dorsal surface with small foveolae similar in size and density as those on prodorsum. Sacculus \(Sa\) situated in front of seta \(lm, S\) median to dp, \(S\) in front of

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Figs. 1-5 *Peloribates haramachiensis* sp. n. 1: Anal plate 2: Genital plate 3: Bothridium and sensillus 4: Femur II 5: Dorsal side of body.
Fig. 6 Peloribates haramachiensis sp. n. (holotype specimen).

Ventral side. Genital plates (Fig. 2) finely punctate except in marginal part, with 5 pairs of setae; their mutual distances: \( g_r - g_i = g_i - g_s < g_r - g_s < g_r - g_s < g_r - g_s \). Anal plates (Fig. 1) sculptured by both foveolae and small punctures. Ventral plate with foveolae as on notogaster. Adanal seta \( a_d \) situated far closer to \( a_d \) than to \( a_d \). Adanal fissure close and parallel to lateral margin of anal opening.


Remarks. The new species is above all characterized by the long, whip-like notogastral setae, but the setae are not so strikingly long as in Peloribates fragilis Hammer, 1967, P. hungaricus (Balogh, 1943) and P. hirsutus Mahunka, 1983. Two philippine species, P. pilipinus Corpus-Raros, 1981, and P. varisculptus Corpus-Raros, 1981, have also long notogastral setae, but these are more or less swollen at tip. Another philippine species, P. tredecemsetosus Corpus-Raros, 1981, has sensilli with a pointed tip. P. longicorna Hammer, 1968 and P. longisetosus (Willmann, 1930) have also long setae, but their bothridial scales are developed prominently. P. longipilosus Csiszár, 1962 is similar to the new species, but the mutual distances of median series of notogastral setae are far longer than those in the new species. Among the twelve Peloribates species known from Japan, P. ryukyuensis Aoki & Nakatamari, 1974, is resembling the new species in having long notogastral setae, elongate clavate sensilli and foveolate surface sculpture, but the
former is distinguishable from the latter by (1) the shorter lamellae, (2) the shorter sensilli, (3) the more rounded rostrum, (4) the notogastral setae becoming progressively longer posteriorly, and (5) the larger body size (450-485 × 350-390 μm).

References


