

The water mites (Acari, Hydrachnellae) described by A. J. Besseling from The Netherlands

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SMIT, H., 1992. THE WATER MITES (ACARI, HYDRACHNELLAE) DESCRIBED BY A. J. BESSELING FROM THE NETHERLANDS. – *ENT. BER., AMST.* 52 (11): 165-168.

Abstract: Lectotypes are designated for a number of taxa described by A. J. Besseling from The Netherlands. It is concluded that *Lebertia elongata* is a junior synonym of *L. fimbriata*. *Unionicola dresscheri* (Besseling), as described by Tuzovsky, is not identical to *U. crassipes dresscheri* Besseling.

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Introduction

The Dutch acarologist A. J. Besseling described a number of water mite taxa from The Netherlands, most of which have been synonymized in the course of time. Since Besseling did not choose holotypes, lectotypes are designated in this paper, except in those cases where no information about the type locality was given in the original description. In many publications Besseling did not mention the number of specimens in the type series. If only one specimen could be traced in the type series, this specimen has been designated as a lecto-

type. The slides of specimens collected by G. Romijn in the beginning of the twentieth century are of very poor quality and make a further examination impossible. The complete collection of Besseling is preserved in the Institute of Taxonomic Zoology (Zoological Museum) of the University of Amsterdam.

In addition to the lectotype designation, the taxonomic status of *Lebertia elongata* Besseling, 1957 and *Unionicola crassipes dresscheri* Besseling, 1946 are discussed.

List of species

***Hydrodroma despiciens pilosa* Besseling, 1940**
Hydrodroma despiciens pilosa Besseling. *Ent. Ber., Amst.* 10: 246-247.

In the original description Besseling (1940) did

not mention a type locality; therefore, no lectotype has been designated.

Besseling described *Hydrodroma despiciens pilosa* as a subspecies (Besseling, 1940), but considered it a forma later on (Besseling, 1964). Wiles (1985) concluded that *H. despiciens despiciens* (Müller, 1776) and *H. d. pilosa* are morphologically distinct, and apparently occur mutually exclusive. He suggested that the two forms should be treated as subspecies. Gerecke (1991) raised the subspecies to the rank of a species, *H. pilosa* (Besseling, 1940).

***Lebertia elongata* Besseling, 1957**

Lebertia elongata Besseling, 1957. *Ent. Ber., Amst.* 17: 46-47 **new syn.**

Lectotype: Female from "Groevenbeek Putten, vii-1948", leg. A. J. Besseling (coll. nr. 810). The type locality is a brooklet in the province of Gelderland; there are no other records of this species in the literature.

According to Besseling (1957, 1964), the diagnostic characters of the species are the long, elliptical outline of the body ("elongata") and the dark red colour. However, these characters are also found in *L. fimbriata* Thor (Thor, 1905; Soar & Williamson, 1927; Viets, 1936; Lundblad, 1956; Viets & Viets, 1960). The colour of *L. fimbriata* is variable, from dark red (Viets, 1936) to yellowish with brown patches (Thor, 1905; Soar & Williamson, 1927). The

measurements of palp segments and body length, and the chaetotaxy of the legs of *L. elongata* given by Besseling (1957), are similar to the measurements and the chaetotaxy of *L. fimbriata*. Only Lundblad (1956) and Viets & Viets (1960) reported larger females of *L. fimbriata*, up to 1090 μ and 1200 μ , respectively. Therefore, it has to be concluded that *L. elongata* is a junior synonym of *L. fimbriata*.

***Frontipoda musculus longiscuta* Besseling, 1943**

Frontipoda musculus longiscuta Besseling, 1943. Ent. Ber., Amst. 11: 51.

Lectotype: Male from "Sloot Vlijmen [Ditch Vlijmen], viii-1935", leg. A. J. Besseling (coll. nr. 371).

K. O. Viets (1956) placed *Frontipoda musculus longiscuta* in synonymy with *F. musculus* (Müller, 1776).

***Frontipoda musculus breviscutata* Besseling, 1950**

Frontipoda musculus var. *breviscutata* Besseling, 1950. Ent. Ber., Amst. 13:186.

Lectotype: Female from "Westelijke Plas, Ankeveen [Western Lake, Ankeveen], v-1948", leg. A. J. Besseling (coll. nr. 792).

Paralectotypes: Two females from the type locality.

Like the previous taxon, this variety was placed in synonymy with *F. musculus* by K. O. Viets (1956).

***Hygrobates nigromaculatus setosus* Besseling, 1942**

Hygrobates nigromaculatus setosus Besseling, 1942. Ent. Ber., Amst. 11: 3-5.

Besseling (1942) did not mention a type locality in the original publication; therefore, no lectotype has been designated.

Viets (1960b) placed *Hygrobates nigromaculatus setosus* in synonymy with *H. nigromaculatus* Lebert.

***Atractides nodipalpis parviporus* (Besseling, 1933)**

Megapus nodipalpis parvipora Besseling, 1933. Ent. Ber., Amst. 9: 517-518.

Besseling (1933) did not mention a type locality in the original publication; therefore, no lectotype has been designated.

Lundblad (1962) placed *Atractides nodipalpis parviporus* in synonymy with *A. nodipalpis nodipalpis* (Thor, 1899).

***Unionicola intermedia dodecapora* Besseling, 1937**

Unionicola intermedia var. *dodecapora* Besseling, 1937. Ent. Ber., Amst. 9: 346.

Lectotype: Female from "Kanaal van Deurne, 8-vi-1918", leg. G. Romijn (slide).

K. H. Viets (1956) placed *Unionicola intermedia dodecapora* in synonymy with *U. intermedia* (Koenike).

***Unionicola crassipes dresscheri* Besseling, 1946.**

Unionicola crassipes var. *dresscheri* Besseling, 1946. Ent. Ber. 12: 62.

Type material was collected by Th. G. N. Dresscher at "IJsselmeer achter erf 40" (Lake IJssel behind nr. 40), and should be preserved at the Institute for Forestry and Nature Research at Leersum, The Netherlands. Unfortunately, the type material could not be traced; therefore, no lectotype could be designated.

Lundblad (1962) placed this taxon in synonymy with *Unionicola crassipes* (Müller, 1776). Tuzovsky (1985) raised the variety to the rank of a species, *U. dresscheri* (Besseling, 1946), though he did not compare his own specimens with material from Besseling.

Comparison of the illustrations of Tuzovsky (1985) with a female of *U. crassipes dresscheri* identified by Besseling proved that the specimens of Tuzovsky belong to a different species. The acetabula of Tuzovsky's specimen are small, while the acetabula of *U. crassipes dresscheri* are large, with one or two smaller acetabula (but not as small as in the specimen of Tuzovsky) on each acetabular plate. The setae on the palp are small in Tuzovsky's specimen, and large in *U. crassipes dresscheri*, while further differences are found in the posterior margin of the fourth coxae.

Since the number and form of the acetabula of *U. crassipes* are variable, I agree with

Lundblad (1962) that the differences between *U. crassipes dresscheri* Besseling and the nominate species are of minor importance, and justifies the synonymy proposed.

***Feltria romijni* Besseling, 1930**

Feltria romijni Besseling, 1930. Ent. Ber., Amst. 8: 84-85.

Besseling (1930) did not mention a type locality; therefore, no lectotype has been designated.

Bader (1974) placed *Feltria romijni* in synonymy with *F. rouxi* Walter, 1907.

***Tiphys torris palustris* Besseling, 1950**

Tiphys torris forma *palustre* Besseling, 1950. Ent. Ber., Amst. 13: 186.

Lectotype: Female from "Poeltje in Agelerbroek, Ootmarsum [Pond in Agelerbroek, Ootmarsum], vi-1947", leg. A. J. Besseling (coll. nr. 747).

Lundblad (1962) placed *Tiphys torris palustris* in synonymy with *T. torris* (Müller, 1776).

***Pionopsis differens* Besseling, 1935**

Pionopsis differens Besseling, 1935. Ent. Ber., Amst. 9: 101-102.

Lectotype: Female from "Sloot Heumen [Ditch Heumen], 6-v-1916", leg. G. Romijn (slide).

Paralectotypes: Ten females from "Sloot Westervoort [Ditch Westervoort], v-1929", leg. A. J. Besseling (coll. nr. 68).

Lundblad (1962) placed *Pionopsis differens* in synonymy with *P. lutescens* (Hermann, 1804).

***Pionacercus vatrax crassipes* Besseling, 1945**

Pionacercus vatrax crassipes Besseling, 1945. Ent. Ber., Amst. 11: 277.

Besseling (1945) did not mention a type locality; therefore, no lectotype has been designated.

Viets (1978) placed *Pionacercus vatrax crassipes* in synonymy with *P. vatrax* (Koch, 1837).

***Forelia variegator intermedia* Besseling, 1946**

Forelia variegator intermedia Besseling, 1946. Ent. Ber., Amst. 12: 62.

The type material was collected by Th. G. N.

Dresscher from "Kampereiland achter erf 45 [Kampereiland behind nr. 45]", and should be preserved at the Institute for Forestry and Nature Research at Leersum, The Netherlands. Unfortunately, the type material could not be traced; therefore, no lectotype could be designated.

Lundblad (1962) placed *Forelia variegator intermedia* in synonymy with *F. variegator* (Koch, 1837).

***Aturus oudemansi* Besseling, 1932**

Aturus oudemansi Besseling, 1932. Ent. Ber., Amst. 8: 375-378.

Besseling (1932) did not mention a type locality in the original publication; therefore, no lectotype has been designated. There are no records in the literature of this species since the original publication. Besseling recorded the species for the last time in 1936.

***A-Thienemannia fluvicola* Besseling, 1951**

A-Thienemannia fluvicola Besseling, 1951. Ent. Ber., Amst. 13: 315-316.

Holotype: Female from "Rosep, Haren, x-1950", leg. A. J. Besseling (slide, coll. nr. 870). Viets (1960a) synonymized *A-Thienemannia fluvicola* with *Mundamella germanica* Viets, 1913.

***Arrenurus schreuderi* Besseling, 1953**

Arrenurus schreuderi Besseling, 1953. Ent. Ber., Amst. 14: 289-290.

Lectotype: Female from "Sloot schraalland zuidwest van Slikkendam, Zuid-Holland [Ditch in fen meadow southwest of Slikkendam, Zuid-Holland], v-1950", leg. A. J. Besseling (coll. nr. 860).

Smit & Van der Hammen (1990) concluded that *Arrenurus schreuderi* was the female of *Arrenurus knauthei* Koenike, 1895.

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