

**UNIONICOLA (COELATURICOLA) GLEDHILLI N. SUBGEN., N. SP. (ACARI:  
UNIONICOLIDAE) FROM FRESHWATER MUSSELS IN BOTSWANA AND  
EAST AFRICA**

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**ABSTRACT** - *Unionicola (Coelaturicola) gledhilli* n. subgen., n. sp. (Hydrachnida: Unionicolidae) is described from freshwater mussels, *Coelatura kunenensis* Mousson, 1887 (Unionoida: Unionidae) from the Okavango River, Botswana, and *Chambardia nyassaensis* (Lea, 1864) (Unionoida: Iridinidae) from Lake Malawi, Malawi, East Africa. The new species has distinctive coxal plate and genital field morphologies. This new mite extends our understanding of the morphology and biogeography of the genus in Africa and the Southern Hemisphere. It further extends our knowledge of host selection and host-specificity among the *Unionicola*.

**Key words** - Acari, Hydrachnida, Unionicolidae, freshwater mussels, Iridinidae, Unionidae, biogeography, East Africa, Botswana.

Abstract # 12

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