

A REVIEW OF MITES OF THE GENUS *NEHARPYRHYNCHUS* FAIN (ACARI: HARPIRHYNCHIDAE) - ECTOPARASITES OF WILD BIRDS, INCLUDING DESCRIPTION OF FOUR NEW SPECIES

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ABSTRACT - Seven species of the genus *Neharpyrhynchus* Fain, 1972 (Acari: Harpirhynchidae) are recorded on European birds, including four described in this paper as new: *N. bochkovi* **n. sp.**, *N. pari* **n. sp.**, *N. schoenobaenus* **n. sp.** and *N. spinus* **n. sp.** Based on external morphology of European species, as well as of the extraeuropean species *N. baile* (Bochkov, Literak and Capek, 2007), *N. squamiferus* (Fain, 1972) and *N. trochilinus* (Fain, 1972), five species groups (i.e., *N. baile* group, *N. hippolae* group, *N. pilirostris* group, *N. plumaris* group and *N. squamiferus* group) are described. The prevalence of bird infestation by individual European *Neharpyrhynchus* species is defined according to recent field examinations in the Czech Republic and on the border between Slovakia and Poland. A key for determining females of all known species is included.

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