

MITES (ACARI: SCUTACARIDAE) ASSOCIATED WITH THE RED IMPORTED FIRE ANT, *SOLENOPSIS INVICTA* BUREN (HYMENOPTERA: FORMICIDAE), FROM LOUISIANA AND TENNESSEE, U.S.A.

Ernst Ebermann¹ and John C. Moser²

1. Institut für Zoologie, Karl-Franzens-Universität, A-8010 Graz, Universitätsplatz 2, Austria (e-mail: ernst.ebermann@uni-graz.at); 2. Southern Research Station, USDA Forest Service, 2500 Shreveport Highway, Pineville, Louisiana 71360, U.S.A. (e-mail: jmoser@fs.fed.us).

ABSTRACT - Four species of *Scutacarus* and one of *Imparipes* (Acari: Scutacaridae) are documented as phoretic from alates and workers of the red imported fire ant (*Solenopsis invicta* Buren) in Louisiana and Tennessee, U.S.A. One, *Imparipes (Imparipes) louisianae* **n. sp.**, and two *Scutacarus nanus* **n. sp.** and *Scutacarus tertius* **n. sp.**, are described. The biology and phoretic behaviors of all five species are discussed from those collected from the vicinity of Pineville, Louisiana.

Internat. J. Acarol. 34(1): 55-69.