

Genus	Vol. 13 (1): 1-3	Wrocław, 10 IV 2002
-------	------------------	---------------------

Itaquascon mongolicus, a new species of Eutardigrada from
Mongolia
(Eutardigrada: Hypsibiidae)

ŁUKASZ KACZMAREK¹, ŁUKASZ MICHALCZYK² and BARBARA WĘGLARSKA³

¹Department of Animal Taxonomy and Ecology, A. Mickiewicz University, Szamarzewskiego 91 a,
60-569 Poznań, Poland, e-mail: l_kaczmarek@wp.pl;

^{2,3}Department of Entomology, Jagiellonian University, Ingardena 6, 30-060 Kraków, Poland,
²e-mail: agnostic@poczta.fm;

ABSTRACT. A new eutardigrade, *Itaquascon mongolicus* sp. n. is described from moss collected in Mongolia. This species differs from others members of genus in having lunules with teeth.

Key words: taxonomy, new species, Tardigrada, Hypsibiidae, *Itaquascon*, Mongolia

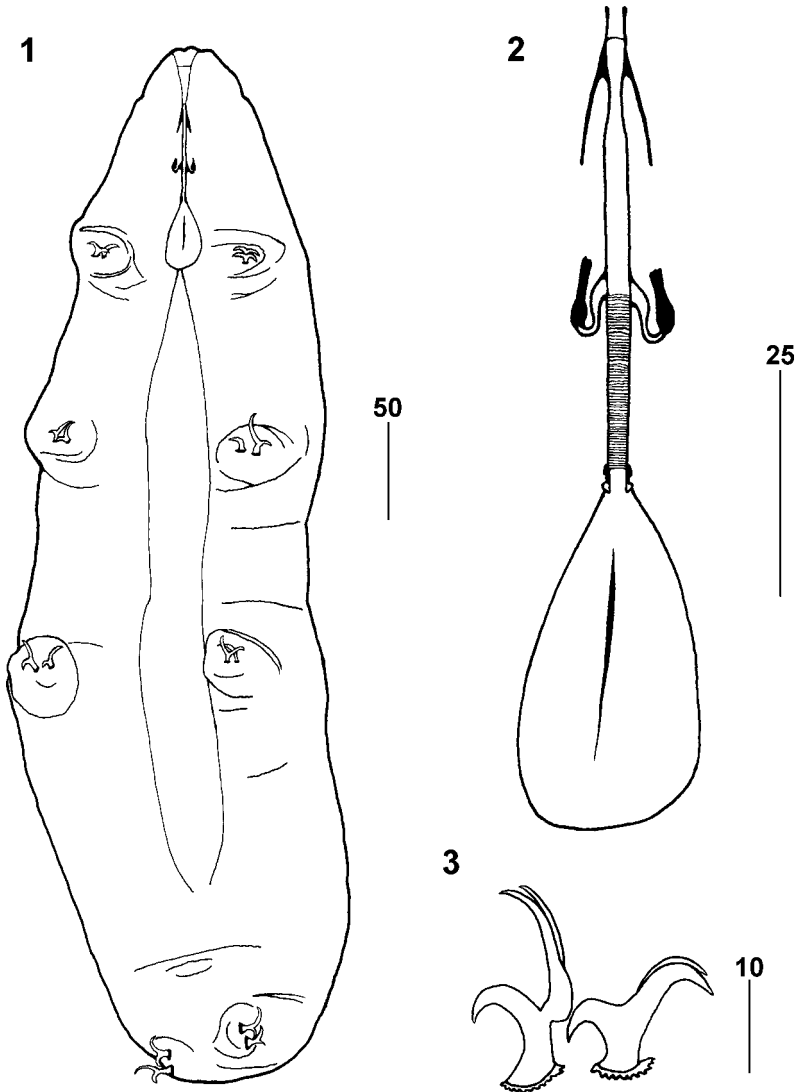
Until now only 4 species of the genus *Itaquascon* are known (RAMAZZOTTI & MAUCCI 1983; ABE & ITO 1994). Specimens of this genus are rare and few. In this paper a new species *Itaquascon mongolicus* is described and figured. All measurements are given in micrometers [μm]. Two specimens were found in moss from Tehijn Cagan Nuur National Park, Northern Mongolia.

***Itaquascon mongolicus* sp. n.**

DESCRIPTION

Total body length of holotype 560 (paratype 400) (Fig. 1). Body white or colourless. Cuticle smooth. Eyes absent. Peribuccal papillae and lamellae absent. Rigid buccal tube 31 (28) long and 2 (2) wide. Flexible pharyngeal tube with

spiral thickening 24 (18) long and 2 (2) wide. Length ratio of flexible pharyngeal and rigid buccal tube 0.77 (0.64). Drop-like thickening absent. Pharyngeal bulb pear- or spherical-shaped 35 (25) long and 20 (29) wide. Placoids, septule and apophyses absent. Stylet support present (Fig. 2). Claws of *Hypsibius*-type. Main branch with basal claw of IV pair of legs 25 (19) long. Internal and external claws



1-3. *Itaquascon mongolicus* sp. n.: 1 – habitus, 2 – buccal apparatus, 3 – claws of the IV pair of leg

on each leg little different in size and shape. Primary branches of internal and external claws with two accessory points. All claws have lunules with teeth (0,5) but they are the best developed at the fourth pair of legs (Fig. 3). Cuticular bar absent. Eggs unknown.

ETYMOLOGY

The name *mongolicus* refers to the country where the species has been found.

TYPE MATERIAL

Holotype and paratype: Mongolia: Archangaj Ajmag, Tehijn Cagan Nuur National Park; Tarbagataj Mts., 2500 m, VII.2000, leg. Ł. Kaczmarek. Holotype is preserved at the Department of Animal Taxonomy and Ecology, A. Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland; paratype is preserved at the Department of Entomology, Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

Itaquascon mongolicus sp. n. differs from other species of genus *Itaquascon* in having claws with dentate lunules. This species is similar to *I. pawlowskii* WĘGLARSKA, 1973 and *I. globuliferum* ABE & ITO, 1994, but differs from them in the body length; *I. pawlowskii* (130-224); *I. globuliferum* (124-226) and the length ratio of flexible pharyngeal and rigid buccal tube - *I. pawlowskii* 3.84 (calculated based on data from WĘGLARSKA 1973; RAMAZZOTTI & MAUCCI 1983); *I. globuliferum* 1.44-2.11 (ABE & ITO 1994). Besides *I. pawlowskii* does not have stylets supports. *I. globuliferum* has also placoids.

REFERENCES

- ABE, W., ITO, M., 1994. *Itaquascon globuliferum*, a New Species of Tardigrada (Eutardigrada: Hypsibiidae) from Japan. Proc. Japan. Soc. Syst. Zool., **51**: 8-11.
- RAMAZZOTTI, G., MAUCCI, W. 1983. Il Phylum Tardigrada. Mem. Ist. Idrobiol. Pallanza, **41**: 1012 pp.
- WĘGLARSKA, B., 1973. Tardigrada in High Tatra localities bare of snow with a description of *Itaquascon pawlowskii* sp. nov. Věst. Čsl. Spol. Zool., **37**: 150-154.