

## A Few More Oribatids from Greenland and Lapland.

By  
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In the summer of 1956 I made some collections of oribatids around Abisko in Swedish Lapland. The chief purpose of the collections was that of finding high arctic species in the cold springs there, more especially I hoped to find *Mucronothrus nasalis* (Willm.), which had already been reported from Lapland (Willman 1943). I wanted to see for myself the conditions under which this species lives. Its strange distribution from Switzerland (Schweizer 1956), Austria (Franz 1953), East Sudetia (Willman 1933, 1939, 1956) (most habitats being springs, some of them bogs) to Lapland (Willman 1943), Norway (Willman 1929), and the Faroes (Trägårdh 1931), and even to the alpine areas of the Andes Mountains (the Argentine, Bolivia (Hammer 1958), Peru, (Hammer, not published)) suggested to me that it might also be found in cold springs e. g. in Denmark. When I had examined some springs without finding the animal in question\*), I went to Lapland, where I found some specimens in a limestone area on the bank of a brook in moss with oozing water, in an area in part of a heleocratic character overgrown also by *Saxifraga aizoides* and yellow violet. At the examination some time later of some material from Greenland I found *Mucronothrus nasalis* (Willm.) in a sample from a bog near Angmagssalik, East Greenland. With this distribution there is no doubt that it will be possible to find it throughout North America if the

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\*) During a short visit to Jutland in July 1960 *Mucronothrus nasalis* (Willm.) was found in several samples taken from moss incrustated with chalk at "Ravnekilde", a spring near Rebild south of Ålborg, Denmark. The water temperatur is constantly about 9° C.

right places are examined, viz. areas with springs and alpine bogs. Its occurrence in Central European mountainous regions and in the mountains of South America would seem to indicate that it must be a relict from the Glacial Age.

At the above-mentioned examination of Greenland oribatids I furthermore found *Trhypochthoniellus setosus* Willm. in some material from a spring near Unartasiak in West Greenland. This species is known from Germany ("in nassen Sphagnumpolstern und an untergetauchten Wasserpflanzen der Moore", Willman 1931), Iceland (near hot springs, Tuxen 1944), and Canada (in Scirpus vegetation on lake shores with a bottom vegetation of moss and liverwort, Hammer 1952).

*Camisia foveolata* Hammer was described from Pt. Barrow, Alaska (Hammer 1955). It is furthermore known from Klaushavn, West Greenland (Hammer 1955). At the examination of springs in Swedish Lapland 1956 I found three full-grown individuals and a nymph in thick yellowish green moss immersed in ice-cold water at a source of the Risajaura, which in the latter part of June to the beginning of July was in part ice-covered. All the findings of this species have been made north of the polar circle, so that, until different information about its distribution is available, it must be supposed that it has a circumpolar high arctic distribution.

*Neonothrus humicola* Forssl. was found in some material from Godthaab, West Greenland. Otherwise this species has only been found in Sweden (Forsslund 1943, 1945, 1955) and Finland (Karppinen 1953). *Neonothrus humicola* Forssl. was described as late as 1955 (Sellnick & Forsslund), the same year as *Camisia foveolata* Hammer.

The fact that it is still possible to find such comparatively big new species as the two last-mentioned ones in a country which for more than half a century has had eminent specialists within this special field, suggests that

a large number of years will still pass before the oribatid fauna of a country is only fairly well-known.

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### Anmeldelse.

Heinrich Schmutterer: **Schildläuse oder Coccoidea I. Deckelschildläuse oder Diaspididae.** Tierwelt Deutschlands 45 Jena (Gustav Fischer) 1959, 260 pp. Pris 39,80 DM. — Kurt Harz: **Geradflügler oder Orthopteren (Blattodea, Mantodea, Saltatoria, Dermaptera).** Ibid. 46 Jena (Gustav Fischer) 1960, 232 pp. Pris 33,10 DM.

Det er saa heldigt, at "Tierwelt Deutschlands" i de senere, siden Krigen udkomne Bind beskæftiger sig med Grupper, der er daarlignende eller slet ikke repræsenteret i "Danmarks Fauna": Edderkopper, Blomstertæger, Slørvinger, og nu Skjoldlus og Retvinger. Det burde i høj Grad kunne være en Drivkraft til Studiet af vor hjemlige Faunistik af de mindre "populære" Grupper. Over de danske Skjoldlus har Henriksen i 1921 skrevet en lille Oversigt; men denne Gruppe er først i de sidste 20-25 Aar blevet saa vel systematisk studeret, at man kan gaa i Gang med en ordentlig Bestemmelse af de Dyr, man finder, og i Virkeligheden er man forbavset over, at Tiden allerede er inde til et Arbejde i "Tierwelt Deutschlands". Men en Gennemgang af Schmutterers Arbejde viser, at det virkelige er Tilfældet; det er et overordentlig gedigent Værk, der med fortræffelige Illustrationer karakteriserer de enkelte Arter efter først omhyggeligt at have skildret den morfologiske Bygning og den indviklede Levevis, der gør at mange Stadier maa bestemmes hver for sig, hvis de overhovedet kan bestemmes. Som sædvanligt er særlige Afsnit helligede Klækning og Præparation.

Det andet Bind, om Retvingerne, er af samme Forfatter som den i 1959 (p. 156) anmeldte Bog om Mellemeuropas Retvinger, og slutter sig meget nøje dertil. Da Forf. jo ikke kan forventes at have læst min daværende Anmeldelse, er de Indvendinger, jeg dengang gav, gyldige ogsaa her; men der er flere Tegninger i den nye Bog og med langt udførligere Forklaringer. Biologen faar en langt mere omfattende Omtale end det ellers er Tilfældet i "Tierwelt Deutschlands". Trods Indvendingerne er det en god Støtte for den, der vil kaste sig over Gruppen; bortset fra Sommerfugle og Biller staar vi i Henseende til faunistisk Kendskab væsentligt tilbage for vore Nabolande i Øst og Syd og tildels Vest. Man undrer sig undertiden over, at saadanne overskuelige Opgaver ikke frister Samlerne eller de studerende; men nu er i hvert Fald bl. a. med de foreliggende Bøger solide og ikke særligt dyre Hjælpemidler forhaanden.

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