AN ERIOPHYID MITE, *ACERIA SPICATA*, N. SP., FROM MOUNTAIN MAPLE, *ACER SPICATUM*

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Thirty-four eriophyid species are recorded as occurring on maples in the United States. Many of these mites were described prior to 1931 (Hodgkiss 1913, 1930) and are inadequately described by today's standards. Unfortunately, type materials for redescriptions are not available today since eriophyids dissolve and lose their identity in many mounting medias. Collections of eriophyids from the type localities would prove valuable in clearing up some of the taxonomic problems regarding this mite family on maples. It is the purpose of this paper to describe a new species of eriophyid mite.

Aceria spicata, new species
(Fig. 1)

Female 160 μ long, 45 μ thick, light yellow to whitish, wormlike. Rostrum 15 μ long, projecting diagonally downward. Shield 20 μ long, 37 μ wide, smooth subtriangular, rounded in front, not projecting over rostrum. Dorsal tubercles 15 μ apart, on rear margin, arising from invagination in shield; setae 23 μ long, projecting backward. Forelegs 27 μ long, tibia 4 μ long, with a minute seta on inner proximal side; tarsus 8 μ long, claw 8 μ long, featherclaw 4-rayed. Hindleg 22 μ long, tibia 4 μ long, tarsus 7 μ long, claw 10 μ long. Forecoxae connate, seta I 3 μ long, seta II 16 μ long; hind coxal seta 20 μ long; design absent. Abdomen with tergites and sternites about 50 in number. Microtubercles on sternites and anterior half of tergites. Lateral seta 10 μ long, on about sternite 6; first ventral 27 μ long, on about sternite 18; second ventral 7 μ long, on sternite 32; third ventral 15 μ long, on sternite 5 from rear; accessory seta present. Female genitalia 17 μ wide, 12 μ long, coverflap with 8 or 9 longitudinal furrows; seta 5 μ long.

Male: Not seen.

This species is very similar and fits very closely the descriptions for *Aceria calaceris* Keifer (1952) and *A. parallelus* (Hodgkiss 1913) which are recorded from *Acer glabrum* Torr., and *A. spicatum* Lamb., respectively. *A. spicata* differs from *A. calaceris* in possessing fewer tergites and sternites. It also has microtubercles on the anterior tergites and lacks all signs of a shield design. *A. spicata* differs from *A. parallelus* in the absence of the shield design and the entire dorsum of the abdomen is not microtuberculate.

All specimens were collected by the author on 14 August 1962 from mountain maple, *Acer spicatum* Lamb., on Clingman's Dome in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. The mite causes an erineum of yellowish or whitish hairs on the underside of the leaf in the axils of the major ribs and veins. The type material includes the holotype and 8 paratypes in the author's collection. Three paratypes will be deposited in the California Department of Agriculture collection, Sacramento, California.

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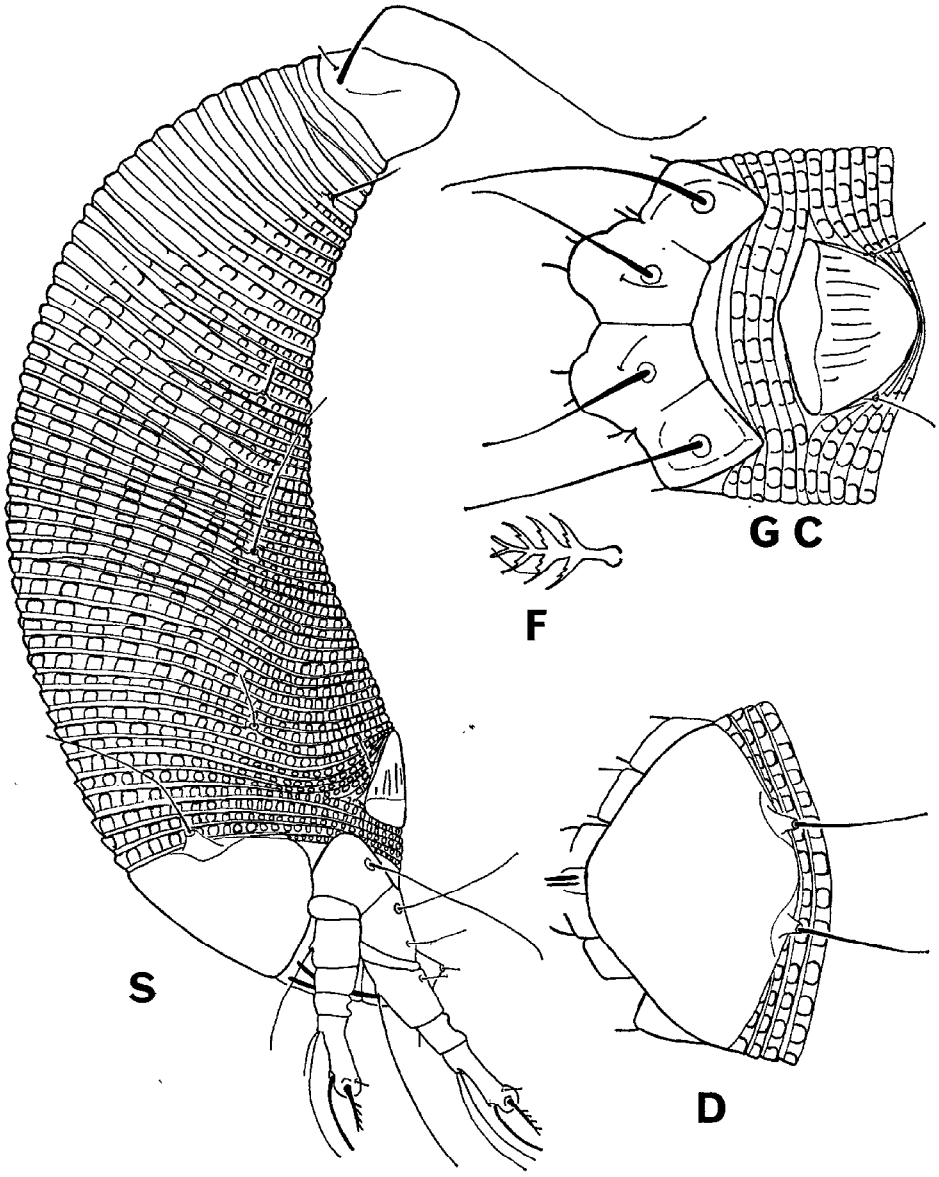

Fig. 1. *Aceria spicata,* n. sp. S, side view; F, featherclaw; GC, genital and coxal area; D, dorsal view.

LITERATURE CITED

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