

ABSTRACT

Mites are microscopic creatures belonging to the order Acarina of sub-class Acari. They have economic importance as pests of crops and biocontrol agents of crop pests and small soft bodied insects.

Mites of the family Tenuipalpidae are serious pests of crops, vegetables, ornamentals, orchids, grasses and fruit plants. In Pakistan no work of this family is exclusively known from Gujranwala Division, so the present project was undertaken. Different localities of Gujranwala Division were selected at random and surveyed. Mites were collected by two methods i.e., Sieve Collection Method and Berlese's Funnel Extraction Method. The mites thus collected were preserved in 70% alcohol. Permanent slides were made in Hoyer's medium. Sketches were drawn by using ocular grid under phase contrast microscope and specimens were identified. As a result of these studies 15 species belonging to genus *Aegyptobia* Sayed, *Raoiella* Hirst, *Cenopalpus* Pritchard & Baker, *Brevipalpus* Donnadieu, and *Tenuipalpus* Donnadieu were collected and described. Out of these 8 were new species whereas 7 were already known species. They have been described in detail. The detail of species collected in different genera is as under:

I. Genus *Aegyptobia* Sayed

- i. *Aegyptobia nummulus* Chaudhri

II. Genus *Raoiella* Hirst

- ii. *Raoiella rahii* Akbar et al.

III. Genus *Cenopalpus* Pritchard and Baker

- iii. *Cenopalpus azizi* n. sp.

IV. Genus *Brevipalpus* Donnadieu

- iv. *Brevipalpus imraneii* n. sp.
 - v. *Brevipalpus californicus* (Banks)
 - vi. *Brevipalpus rica* Chaudhri
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vii. *Brevipalpus rahwaliensis* n.sp.

viii. *Brevipalpus solidus* Chaudhri

ix. *Brevipalpus nandiensis* n.sp.

x. *Brevipalpus nagri* n.sp.

xi. *Brevipalpus samiai* n.sp.

xii. *Brevipalpus conicum* n. sp.

V. Genus *Tenuipalpus* Donnadieu

xiii. *Tenuipalpus jandialensis* n. sp.

xiv. *Tenuipalpus ortus* Chaudhri

xv. *Tenuipalpus placitus* Chaudhri
