

# Oligonychus grypus

## Baker & Pritchard 1960 ^^

### Material examined

types

### Taxonomy

Subfamily Tetranychinae

Tribe Tetranychini

### Distribution

^^NOT PRESENT IN AUSTRALIA

Specimens have been recorded from the Torres Strait; however I have not examined these specimens - see Notes.

Brazil, Cameroon, \*Congo, Cuba, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, South Africa, Zaire, Zimbabwe

### Taxonomy Changes

None

### Diagnosis

Female

- empodia I-IV = long slender claw, as long or longer than proximoventral hairs (Figs 1, 2, 3)
- lobes on dorsal striae semicircular, widely spaced
- pregenital striae longitudinal, becoming oblique laterally (Figs 4, 5)
- dorsal striae transverse, except longitudinal between opisthosomal setae *f1* and *f2* (Figs 6, 7, 8)
- peritreme ending in short perpendicular expansion, like a golf club (Fig. 9), or with slightly expanded tip (Fig. 10)
- tarsus I with the sockets of four tactile setae proximal and one solenidion adjacent to the socket of the proximal duplex seta
- chaetotaxy for legs I-IV:
  - femora 10, 6, 4, 4
  - genua 5, 5, 4, 4
  - tibiae 10(1+0), 7, 6, 7

Male

- empodium I = bifid claw, dorsal and ventral claws stout, subequal in length (Fig. 11)
- empodia II-IV with long slender dorsal claw, about equal in length to proximoventral hairs (Figs 12, 13)
- peritreme ending in short perpendicular expansion, like a golf club, or with slightly expanded tip (Figs 14, 15)
- tarsus I with the sockets of four tactile and three solenidia proximal to the socket of the proximal duplex seta
- chaetotaxy for legs I-IV:
  - femora 10, 6, 4, 4
  - genua 5, 5, 4, 4
  - tibiae 13(4+0), 7, 6, 7
- aedeagus dorsally directed, sigmoid in shape; no anterior projection; posterior projection is an elongate tapered finger directed dorsally at strong angle (approx. 45°) anteriorly back over shaft then strongly curved posteriorly at similar angle, with no knob; shaft short, dorsal margin of shaft at strong angle creating an acute dorsal angle at base of dorsal projection (Figs 16, 17, 18)

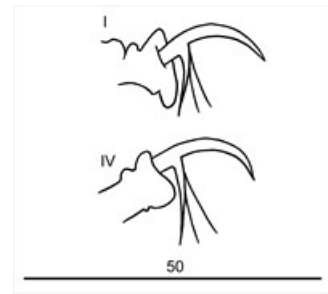


Fig. 1. *O. grypus* adult female paratype - detail of claw I and IV.

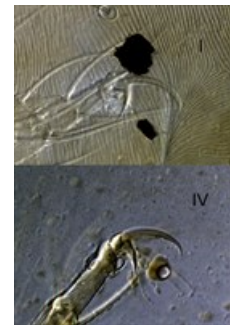


Fig. 3. *Oligonychus grypus* adult female paratype - detail of claws I and IV.

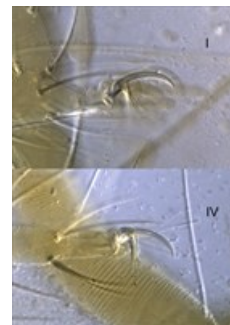


Fig. 2. *Oligonychus grypus* adult female paratype - detail of claws I and IV.



Fig. 4. *Oligonychus grypus* adult female paratype - detail of pattern of pregenital striae.

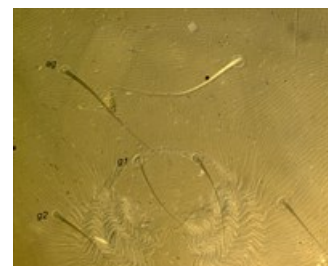


Fig. 5. *Oligonychus grypus* adult female paratype - detail of pattern of pregenital striae.

## Hosts

Recorded hosts include mainly Poaceae: *Arundinaria* sp., *Cissampelos* sp., *Colocasia* sp., *Echinochloa colonum*, *Ehrharta* sp., *Eleusine indica*, *Heteropogon* sp., *Leptochloa* sp., *Panicum* sp., *Rottboelia cochinchinensis*, *Setaria* sp., *Urochloa* sp., \**Saccharum officinarum*, *Sorghum bicolor*, *Oryza sativa*, *Pennisetum purpureum*, *Zea mays*; and *Manihot esculenta* (Euphorbiaceae), *Musa sapientum* (Musaceae).

## Similar Taxa

*Oligonychus zanclopes* Beard & Walter 2003

## References

\*Baker, E.W. and Pritchard, A.E. (1960) The tetranychoid mites of Africa. *Hilgardia* 29: 455-574

Beard, J.J., Walter, D.E. and Allsopp, P.G. (2003) Spider mites of sugarcane in Australia: a review of grass-feeding *Oligonychus* Berlese (Acari: Prostigmata: Tetranychidae). *Australian Journal of Entomology* 42: 71-78

+Gutierrez, J. and Schicha, E. (1983) The spider mite family Tetranychidae (Acari) in New South Wales. *International Journal of Acarology* 9: 99-116

## Notes

^^ *Oligonychus grypus* has most likely been mistakenly recorded as being present in Australia by Gutierrez & Schicha (1983) (Beard *et al.* 2003). A comparison of the type material of *O. grypus* with specimens previously identified as *O. grypus* collected from Sydney clearly indicated that the Australian material was not *O. grypus*. These specimens and others collected in southeast Queensland in outbreak numbers in sugarcane, were in fact a previously undescribed species, now called *O. zanclopes* Beard & Walter. As not all Australian material has been examined (e.g. specimens collected in the Torres Strait), it cannot be stated for sure that this species is absent from Australia.

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Fig. 6. *Oligonychus grypus* adult female paratype - detail of pattern of dorsal striae between setae e1-f1 (transverse), f1-f1 (longitudinal), and f2-f2 (oblique to transverse).

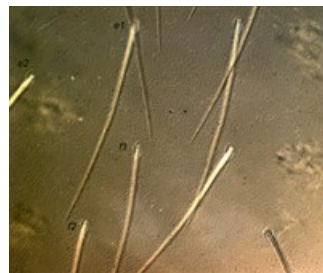


Fig. 7. *Oligonychus grypus* adult female paratype - detail of pattern of dorsal striae between setae e1-f1 (transverse), f1-f1 (longitudinal), and f2-f2 (oblique to transverse).



Fig. 8. *Oligonychus grypus* adult female paratype - detail of pattern of dorsal striae between setae e1-f1 (transverse), f1-f1 (longitudinal), and f2-f2 (oblique to transverse).



Fig. 9. *Oligonychus grypus* adult female paratype - detail of peritreme (arrows indicate tip - shaped like a golf-club).



Fig. 10. *Oligonychus grypus* adult female paratype - detail of peritreme (arrow indicates tip).

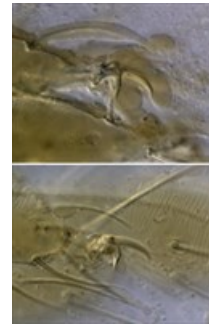


Fig. 11. *Oligonychus grypus* adult male holotype and paratype - detail of empodium I.



Fig. 12. *Oligonychus grypus* adult male holotype - detail of empodium II.

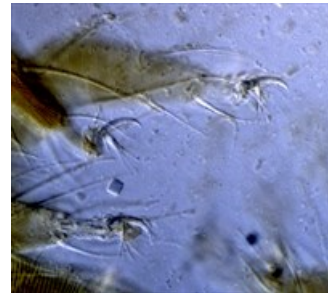


Fig. 13. *Oligonychus grypus* adult male paratype - detail of empodia III and IV.

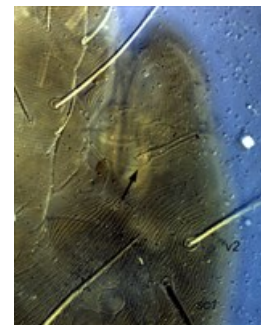


Fig. 14. *Oligonychus grypus* adult male holotype - detail of peritreme (arrow indicates tip).

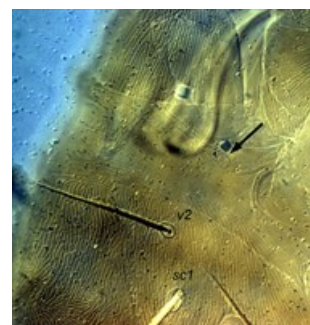


Fig. 15. *Oligonychus grypus* adult male paratype - detail of peritreme (arrow indicates tip).

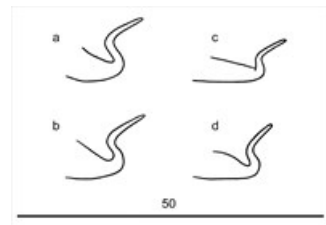


Fig. 16. *Oligonychus grypus* adult male - detail of aedeagus: a. holotype; b.-d. paratypes.

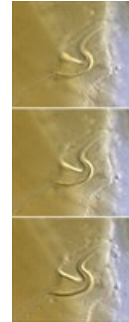


Fig. 17. *Oligonychus grypus* adult male holotype - detail of aedeagus (at different focal points).

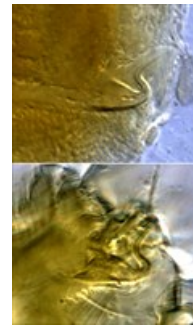


Fig. 18. *Oligonychus grypus* adult male paratypes - detail of aedeagus.