**Tetranychus evansi**  
Baker & Pritchard 1960

**Material examined**
non-types

**Taxonomy**
Subfamily Tetranychinae  
Tribe Tetranychini

**Distribution**
This species was originally described from Mauritius, but it is now widespread across the planet, including Australia.  
There is evidence suggesting that the species originates from South America (Gutierrez and Etienne, 1986).

**Taxonomy Changes**


**Diagnosis**

**Female**
- empodia I-IV each with short to minute dorsal spur above proximoventral hairs (Fig. 1)
- tarsus I with sockets of no setae proximal to, and sockets of four tactile setae overlapping, the socket of the proximal duplex seta (note that there can be some variation in the position of the tactile setae, with the sockets of up to three tactile setae proximal)
- tarsus II with the sockets of three tactile setae and one solenidion proximal to, and three tactile setae overlapping, the socket of the duplex seta
- pregenital striae longitudinal (can be slightly weaker medially) (Figs 2, 3)
- peritreme with recurved hook (Fig. 4)
- dorsal striae between dorsal setae e1–e1 and f1–f1 forming diamond pattern = striae between e1–e1 longitudinal or irregular/oblique (Fig. 5), striae between e1–f1 transverse (Figs 6, 7), striae between f1–f1 longitudinal (Fig. 8)
- dorsal striae between dorsal setae f1–f2 irregular, but mostly longitudinal becoming transverse (Fig. 9)
- ventral striae without lobes
- body pale to dark orange, or brown, with paler orange legs and gnathosoma when alive

**Male**
- empodia I-II each with strong dorsal spur, above fused proximoventral hairs that form a ventral claw (Figs 10, 11)
- empodium III-IV similar to that of female with strong dorsal spur above proximoventral hairs (Figs 10, 11)
- aedeagus: original illustration of aedeagus is different to other specimens identified as *T. evansi*
  - original illustration (Fig. 12): aedeagus dorsally directed, with long narrow neck and distinct knob; anterior projection of knob short broad triangular; posterior projection elongate triangular, tapering to point, with tip bent slightly to posterior; dorsal margin of knob at 45° angle to shaft; dorsal margin of shaft parallel with ventral margin
  - aedeagus directed dorsally, with short stout neck and
small distinct knob; anterior projection of knob short broad triangular; posterior projection narrow triangular tapering to blunt or sharp point, with tip slightly bent ventrally; dorsal margin of knob at 40° angle to shaft; dorsal margin of shaft more or less parallel or at 30° angle to ventral margin of shaft; shaft long (Figs 13-15)

- yellow to orange when alive

Hosts

Recorded on many species of plant from a broad range of families, but the species is most strongly associated with the Solanaceae. The type host is tomato, *Solanum lycopersicum*(Solanaceae).

Recorded hosts include species from the following families: Amaranthaceae, Asteraceae, Brassicaceae, Convolvulaceae, Malvaceae, Poaceae, and Solanaceae.

Similar Taxa

*Tetranychus marianae* McGregor 1950 (see deMoraes et al. 1987)

References


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Fig. 11. *Tetranychus evansi* adult male (non-type; South Africa) - detail of claws I-IV.

Fig. 12. *Tetranychus evansi* original description - detail of adult male aedeagus and empodium I; detail of adult female empodium I (after Baker & Pritchard 1960: 542).

Fig. 13. *Tetranychus evansi* adult male (non-types) - detail of aedeagus of specimens from Australia (one individual at different focal points - Fig. 14) and South Africa (two different individuals - Fig. 15).

Fig. 14. *Tetranychus evansi* adult male (non-type; Australia) - detail of aedeagus at two focal points.

Fig. 15. *Tetranychus evansi* adult male (non-type; South Africa) - detail of aedeagus (two different individuals).