Contribution to the knowledge of the Linyphiidae of the Maghreb. Part X. New data on *Lepthyphantes* Menge (sensu lato) species (Araneae, Linyphiidae)

Robert Bosmans

Terrestrial Ecology Unit, Department of Biology, Ghent University, Ledeganckstraat 35 B-9000 Gent, Belgium.

Corresponding author: Robert Bosmans, e-mail: Robert.bosmans@lin.vlaanderen.be

ABSTRACT. The following new species are described: *Megalepthyphantes auresensis* sp. n., *M. hellinckxorum* sp. n., *Palliduphantes tricuspis* sp. n. and *P. yakourensis* sp. n. The unknown male of *Lepthyphantes aelleni* and the unknown female of *Palliduphantes cadiziensis* are described for the first time, and *Lepthyphantes afer* is redescribed. The following new combinations are proposed: *Canariphantes atlassahariensis* (Bosmans) comb. n., transferred from *Lepthyphantes*; *Canariphantes zonatus* (Simon) comb. n., transferred from *Bolyphantes* and *Improphantes djazairi* (Bosmans) comb. n., transferred from *Lepthyphantes*. An overview of all Maghrebian species and new distribution data of several species are presented.

RÉSUMÉ. Les espèces nouvelles suivantes sont décrites: *Megelepthyphantes auresensis* sp. n., *M. hellinckxorum* sp. n., *Palliduphantes tricuspis* sp. n. et *P. yakourensis* sp. n. Le mâle inconnu de *Lepthyphantes aelleni* et la femelle inconnue de *Palliduphantes cadiziensis* sont décrits pour la première fois et *Lepthyphantes afer* est redécrit. Les combinaisons nouvelles suivantes sont proposées: *Canariphantes atlassahariensis* (Bosmans) comb. n., transféré de *Lepthyphantes*, *Canariphantes zonatus* (Simon) comb. n., transféré de *Bolyphantes* et *Improphantes djazairi* (Bosmans) comb. n., transféré de *Lepthyphantes*. Toutes les espèces Maghrébiennes sont revues et de nouvelles dates de distribution sont présentées.

KEY WORDS: *Lepthyphantes*, Maghreb, new species and records

INTRODUCTION

BOSMANS (1985) revised the species of *Lepthyphantes sensu lato* living in the Maghreb countries of Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia. Since then, after a stay of 6 years in Algeria and some additional collecting trips to Tunisia and Morocco, many additional data have been gathered. New species, unknown males or females and new distribution data of known species were collected. The results are given below.

Since 1985, *Lepthyphantes* has been reclassified in several smaller genera. Because of these nomenclatural changes, the following genera are now represented in the Maghreb: *Canariphantes* Wunderlich, 1992, *Improphantes* Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 1996, *Megalepthyphantes* Wunderlich, 1994, *Palliduphantes* Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 2001 and *Tenuiphantes* Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 1996. Since taxonomic changes to the *Lepthyphantes* group of genera have progressed in a piecemeal fashion with contributions from many authors, the systematics of these species has become rather complicated. Some of the species occurring in the Maghreb have been transferred to alternative genera, but the others remained in Lepthyphantes, despite the fact that they do not meet the definition of *Lepthyphantes sensu stricto* as proposed by SAARISTO & TANASEVITCH (1996). In the absence of new taxonomic work, they are left in the genus *Lepthyphantes*. The present paper, catalogs all known *Lepthyphantes sensu lato* living in the Maghreb and in the references below each species, only data concerning the Maghreb are presented.

The type material is deposited in the collection of the KBIN and the MNHN; the rest of the material is temporarily deposited in the author’s collection.

ABBREVIATIONS

CRB: Collection R. Bosmans;
KBIN: Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut voor Natuurwetenschappen, Brussel;
MNHN: Muséum national d’Histoire naturel de Paris;
Fe, Pa, Ti, Mt, Ta: femur, patella, tibia, metatarsus, tarsus; FeI, FeII, Fe III, FeIV: femur of first, second, third, fourth leg; d, pl, rl, pv, rv: dorsal, prolateral, retro-lateral, proventral, retroventral.
G: Gouvernorat (Tunisia); P: Province (Morocco); W: Wilaya (Algeria).
Measurements are in mm.

SYSTEMATICS

Genus *Lepthyphantes* Menge sensu stricto

SAARISTO & TANASEVITCH (1996, 1999, 2000, 2001) redefined the genus *Lepthyphantes* and in their view, only a few species are placed in this genus. All other species
were or will have to be transferred to other genera, which leaves the genus *Lepthyphantes* in a mess. In the Maghreb, *Lepthyphantes minutus* is the only species that remains. Some species were transferred to the genera *Canariphantes*, *Improphantes*, *Megaephyantes*, *Pallduphantes* or *Tenuiphantes* (Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 1996, 2000, 2001). Seven Maghreb species belong in the *afer*-complex, as first defined by Brignoli (1971) and confirmed by Saaristo & Tanasevitch (1993). Finally, another seven species have, at the moment, an uncertain position.

*Lepthyphantes minutus* (Blackwall, 1833)

*Lepthyphantes minutus*; Bosmans 1985 : 142; Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 1996 : 177, 177, figs 2A, 4A-B, 10A.

**Description and diagnosis**

See Bosmans (1985).

**New material examined**

**ALGERIA**

W. Batna : Aures Massif, Ain Taga, 1600m, 2 males, pitfalls in *Cedrus atlantica* forest, 4 XI.1987.

W. Setif : Djebel Babor, 1950m, 2 females in pitfalls in *Cedrus atlantica* forest, 22.X.1989.

W. Tizi Ouzou : Djurdjura Massif, Tala Guilef, 1550m, 1 male, pitfalls in *Cedrus atlantica* forest, 12 XI.1988.

**Distribution**

A common species in temperate Europe, in Algeria limited to forests at high altitude: the Djurdjura and Aures Massifs and the Djebel Babor. Probably also present in the Moroccan Atlas.

*Lepthyphantes* species belonging to the *afer* complex

**Lepthyphantes afer** Simon, 1913

*(Figs 1-5)*

*Troglophyphantes afer* Simon, 1913 : 374 (descr. male).

*Lepthyphantes afer*; Fage, 1919 : 72, fig. 30; Fage, 1931 : 189, 233, fig. 33 (descr. female); Bosmans, 1985 : 167.

**Citations**

**ALGERIA**

W. Tizi Ouzou : Djurdjura massif: Ifri Bou Anou, Douar Iboudarrene (type locality; Simon, 1913); Djebel Azerou Tidjer, Ifri Maareb (Simon, 1913); Dra-el-Missan, Tessoeret Bourfrichen (Fage, 1919, 1931); Anou ‘t Azzerou, Ibou Bou N’Taya (Fage, 1931); Tessoeret el hadj ou-Kaci (Fage, 1931).

**Remarks**

Bosmans (1985) was unable to locate the material mentioned above and the species thus could not be redescribed. Newly collected material allows us to do so now.

**Diagnosis**

Males are recognised by the basal spine on the paracymbium and by the shape of the lamella (Fig. 1), females by the shape of the protruding sigmoid scape (Figs 3-4). For this and related species, Brignoli (1971) created the *afer*-group, which Saaristo & Tanasevitch (1993) named the *afer*-complex.

**Description**

Measurements : Male : total length 2.8-3.4; prosoma 1.36-1.42 long, 1.04-1.12 wide. Female : total length 2.6-3.8; prosoma 1.31-1.42 long, 1.02-1.16 wide.

Colour : Cephalothorax, chelicerae, sternum and legs yellowish orange, abdomen pale grey, nearly white.

Legs long, Fe I 1.8 times as long as prosoma.

Spination : Fe I : 2 or 3 pl, Fe II-IV spineless; Ti I : 2d, pl, rl; Ti II : 2d, rl; Ti III-IV : 2d; Mt I-III : d; Mt IV spineless.

Palp (Figs 1-2) : Patellar and tibial spine 1.5 times as long as their diameter; tibia twice as long as wide; proximal part of paracymbium with 5 scattered spines, distal part slender and with mesal tooth, invisible in lateral view; suprategular apophysis pointed, with basal tooth; radix with strongly pointed basal tooth; lamella long and pointed; terminal apophysis U-shaped, distally rounded; embolus compact, distally with small tooth.

Epigyne (Figs 3-5) : With strongly protruding, sigmoid scape; anterior part of scape nearly circular, slightly longer than wide, distal part gradually narrowing into the stretcher; median plate strongly elongate, twice as long as wide.

**New material examined**

**ALGERIA**


**Lepthyphantes brevihamatus** Bosmans, 1985

*Lepthyphantes brevihamatus* Bosmans, 1985 : 157, figs 8a-g (descr. male, female).

**Description and diagnosis**

See Bosmans, 1985.

**New material examined**

None.

**Distribution**

Morocco, caves in the High Atlas.

**Lepthyphantes emarginatus** Fage, 1931

*Lepthyphantes emarginatus* Fage, 1931 : 190 fig. 35 (descr. male, female); Bosmans, 1985 : 168, figs 13a-f (redescr. male, female).

**Description and diagnosis**

See Bosmans, 1985.
**New material examined**

**ALGERIA**

W. Bouira : Djurdjura massif : Tala Rana, 1310m, 2 males 3 females, pitfalls in open Cedrus forest, 6.X.1987-1.VI.1988; Tigounatine, 1460m, 1 female in pitfalls in Cedrus forest, 5.I.1988.


**Distribution**

Algeria, Djurdjura Massif. In the past the species was only collected in caves, and we recollected it there. As we collected it also outdoors in pitfall traps, the species appears not to be a true troglobiotic.

**Lepthyphantes longihamatus Bosmans, 1985**

*Lepthyphantes longihamatus* Bosmans, 1985 : 155, figs f. 6a-c, 7a-d, 8h, 11e (descr. male, female).

**Description and diagnosis**

See Bosmans, 1985.

W. Boumerdes : Reghaia, 20m, 1 female in pitfall in *Olea* maquis, 6.IV.1986.

W. Ech Chleff : Damous, 50m, 1 female in pitfall in *Pinus halepensis* forest, I.1988.

W. El Tarf : El Kala, Lake Tonga N., 10m, 7 males 1 female in *Pinus halepensis* litter, 28.III.1988; El Kala, Lake Ouibeira N., 2 males in *Quercus suber* litter, 30.III.1988.

W. Oran : M’sila forest, 400m, 1 female, litter in *Quercus suber* forest, 24.IV.1984.

W. Souk Ahras : Hadjar NE., dam on the Cheffia river, 250m, 1 male in *Pistacia* maquis, 28.II.1990.

W. Tipasa : Bouchaoui, 95m, 1 male 1 female in pitfalls in *Ulmus* forest, 12.II.1987; Douaouda, Oued Mazafran, 50m, 3 males 2 females in pitfalls in *Olea* maquis, 12.II.1987; Sidi Fredj, 10m, 4 males 2 females in pitfalls in *Olea* maquis, VII.1986-I.1987; Sidi Fredj, 25m, 18 males 8 females in pitfalls in *Pinus halepensis* forest, VII.1986-I.1988; Zeralda, 10m, 1 male in pitfall in maquis in dunes, 17.III.1988; Zeralda, 10m, 3 females in litter of *Quercus coccifera* forest in dunes, 6.V.1989.


**TUNISIA**


**Distribution**

Formerly known from one locality in Morocco and from the wilaya’s Alger and Annaba in Algeria (BOSMANS, 1985), later also cited from the south of Spain (BOSMANS, 1993). New localities are added here from the Algerian wilaya’s of Ain Defla, Blida, Boumerdes, Ech Chleff, Oran, Souk Ahras, Tipasa and Tlemcen and from one gouvernator in Tunisia. The species thus occurs all over the north of the Maghreb.

*Lepthyphantes strinatii* Hubert, 1970

*Lepthyphantes strinatii* Hubert, 1970 : 154, figs 5-7 (descr. female); Bosmans, 1985 : 172 (citation).

**Description and diagnosis**

See Hubert, 1970.

**New material examined**

None.

**Distribution**

Tunisia, cave near Zaghouan.

*Lepthyphantes venereus* Simon, 1913

*Lepthyphantes venereus* Simon, 1913 : 372, fig. 4 (descr. female); Fage, 1931 : 184, fig. 34 (descr. male); Deeleman-Reinhold, 1984 : 42, figs 13-14; Bosmans, 1985 : 168, figs 14a-f, 15a-b (redescr. male, female).

**Description and diagnosis**

See Bosmans, 1985.

**New material examined**

None.

**Distribution**

Algeria, cave near Tlemcen.

‘*Lepthyphantes*’ species of uncertain position.

*Lepthyphantes aelleni* Denis, 1957

(Figs 6-11)

*Lepthyphantes aelleni* Denis, in Denis & Dresco, 1957 : 50, figs 1-3 (descr. female); Bosmans, 1985 : 166 (citation).

**Type material**

Holotype female from Morocco, probably the province of Taza, from the abyss ‘Kaf el Bouk’; exact locality unknown (DENIS & DRESCO, 1957); not examined, unavailable.

**Remarks**

The type material mentioned above could not be traced in the MNHNP or in any other museum. Newly collected material which undoubtedly belongs to this species allows us to redescribe it.

**Diagnosis**

The species is easily recognised by the strongly elongated, triangular lamella in the male (Fig. 6) and the shape of the strongly protruding scape in the female (Figs 9, 10). It cannot be placed in any recently created genus of the *Lepthyphantes* group. The elongated, unfolded scape covered with hairs reminds of the scapes of *L. ajoti* Bosmans, *L. exvaginatus* Deeleman and *L. maurusius* Brignoli and these species merit to be united in the same, yet undefined species group.

**Description**

Measurements : Male : total length 2.4-3.0; prosoma 1.26-1.41 long, 1.08-1.14 wide.

Female : total length 3.2-3.8; prosoma 1.48-1.84 long, 1.06-1.44 wide. Legs long, Fe I 1.5 times as long as prosoma.

Colour : Cephalothorax yellowish orange, margin greyish; sternum grey suffused with yellowish orange; legs yellowish orange; abdomen grey, posterior half with 4-5 whitish chevrons.

Spination : FeI : 1 pl, FeII-IV spineless; TiI-IV : 2d, 2pl, 2rl; Mt I-IV : d.

Palp (Figs 6-8) : Patellar and tibial dorsal spines not strongly developed, 1.5 x the diameter of each segment; tibia twice as long as wide; proximal part of paracymbium with strong basal tooth and about 20 scattered spines, distal part gently curved, terminally rounded;
lamella bifid, lateral branch L-shaped, distally denticulate and gradually narrowing, mesal branch shorter and wider.

Epigyne (Figs 9-11): With strongly elongated proscape, with narrower basal part, gradually widening and becoming rhomboid, posteriorly with concave margin and ventrally strongly excavated, with small stretcher.

**New material examined**

MOROCCO

P. Taza : Taza S., Friouato abyss, 1550m, 5 males 43 females in mosses, 8.V.1984 (CRB, KBIN, MNHNP).

**Distribution**

Morocco, region of Taza in the northeast.

*Leptophantes ajoti* Bosmans, 1991


**Description and diagnosis**

See Bosmans, 1991.

---

New material examined
None.

Distribution
Algeria, Saharian Atlas.

*Lepthyphantes exvaginatus* Deeleman, 1984


Description and diagnosis

New material examined
None.

Distribution
Algeria, cave near Tlemcen.

*Lepthyphantes lagunculus* Denis, 1937

*Lepthyphantes lagunculus* Denis, 1937: 1045, pl. 4, figs 13-17 (descr. male, female); Bosmans, 1985: 172 (citation).

Description and diagnosis
See Denis, 1937. This is one of the few species that was not recollected by us in Algeria, although the area was well prospected. The type material was not available, so a redescription cannot be given.

New material examined
None.

Distribution
North Algeria, Zouagha forest.

*Lepthyphantes linyphioides* Denis, 1937

*Lepthyphantes linyphioides* Denis, 1937: 1045, pl. 4, figs 9-10 ( descr. male); Bosmans, 1985: 173 (citation).

Description and diagnosis
See Denis, 1937. This species belongs in another genus *Theonina* as described in (Bosmans, 2005).

Distribution
North Algeria, Zouagha forest.

*Lepthyphantes maurusius* Brignoli, 1978


Description and diagnosis
See Brignoli, 1978. As the type material was not available a redescription cannot be given. As illustrated by Brignoli, the species has a very typical scape which allows an easy identification.

New material examined
None.

Distribution
Morocco, cave near Taza.

*Lepthyphantes pieltaini* Machado, 1940

*Lepthyphantes pieltaini* Machado, 1940: 515, figs 1-6 ( descr. male); Bosmans, 1985: 167 (citation).

Description and diagnosis
See Machado, 1940. This is one of the few species that was not recollected by us in Morocco, and a redescription thus cannot be given. The type material was not available.

New material examined
None.

Distribution
Described from Spanish Morocco, El Ajmas, presently in Morocco in the region of Chechaouen.

*Canariphantes* (Wunderlich, 1992)

Remarks
The genus *Canariphantes* was established by Wunderlich (1992) for two species, one from the Canary Islands (*C. alpicola* Wunderlich), the other from Central Europe (*C. nanus* Kulczyn’ski)). Following the diagnosis given Wunderlich (1992), Saaristo & Tanasevitch (2001) transferred *Lepthyphantes homonymus* and *L. naili* into the genus *Canariphantes*. Two more species obviously belong there and are here transferred to it: *Canariphantes atlassahariensis* from *Palliduphantes* and *Canariphantes zonatus* from *Bolyphantes* (contra Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 2000, 2001).

Diagnosis
Leg spinulation: Fe I pl, Fe II-IV spineless, Ti I 2d, pv, rv, Ti II 2d with or without pv, rv, Mt I-IV d. Male palp: Cymbium without hump; patella and tibia with one short dorsal spine; paracymbium with specific dentation, distal part often translucent; lamella simple, pointed or bifurcate; embolus with subterminal lobe. Epigyne: Small, with flat unfolded scape and small stretcher, flanked by large lateral lobes.

*Canariphantes atlassahariensis*

(Bosmans, 1991) Comb. n.

*Lepthyphantes atlassahariensis* Bosmans 1991: 64, figs 1-2, 5-8 (descr. male, female).

*Palliduphantes atlassahariensis*; Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 2001: 6 (transfer from *Lepthyphantes*).
Lepthyphantes sensu lato in the Maghreb

**Remarks**

SAARISTO & TANASEVITCH (2001) transferred *Lepthyphantes atlassahariensis* to *Palliduphantes*. Two synapomorphies characteristic for this genus are however not present in the species: the lamella of the male palp is not long, narrow and sigmoid, but short and L-shaped; the scape of the epigyne is short and copulation ducts do not run throughout the scape, as in other species of this group. These characters are typical for the genus *Canariphantes* and *L. atlassahariensis* is therefore transferred to this genus.

**Description and diagnosis**


**New material examined**

**ALGERIA**

W. Laghouat : Oued M’zi, 750m, 6 males 13 females, pitfalls in *Phragmites* belt along the river, 21.V.1990.

**Distribution**

Only known from two localities in the Saharian Atlas in Algeria. The new material was collected at the type locality.

*Canariphantes homonymus* (Denis, 1934)

*Lepthyphantes homonymus* Denis, 1934 : 76, fig. 3 (descr. male); Denis, 1950 : 102, fig. 40; Bosmans & Bouragba, 1992 : 259, figs 28-34 (descr. male, female).

*Canariphantes homonymus*; Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 2000 : 264 (transfer from *Lepthyphantes*).

**Description and diagnosis**


**New material examined**

**MOROCO**

P. Taroudannt : between Aoulouz and Taliouine, 600m, 1 female, stones in *Arganier* steppe, 4.II.1996.

**Distribution**

Formerly known from the extreme southeast of France, Portugal and the steppe region in Algeria (BOSMANS & BOURAGBA, 1992) and cited here for the first time from Morocco.

*Canariphantes naili* (Bosmans & Bouragba, 1992)


*Canariphantes naili*; Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 2000 : 264 (transfer from *Lepthyphantes*).

**Description and diagnosis**


**Remarks**

SAARISTO & TANASEVITCH (2000) transferred *Lepthyphantes zonatus* to *Bolyphantes*, but in the revision of this genus, VAN HELSDINGEN et al. (2001) correctly considered the species misplaced. An analysis of palpal organ and epigyne shows that the species has a short, L-shaped lamella and that the scape of the epigyne is very short with the copulation ducts not running throughout the scape. These characters are typical for the genus *Canariphantes* and *L. zonatus* is therefore transferred to it.

**Description and diagnosis**

See MACHADO (1949) and figures 12-17 in present paper.

**New material examined**

**ALGERIA**


W. Annaba : Chetaibi, 810m, 2 males 5 females, stones in grassland, 1.III.1990.

W. Bouira : Col de Dirah, 900m, 2 males 3 females in pitfalls in *Juncus* along Oued Djennane, 10.IV.1988; Ighrem, 490m, 1 female in pitfall in Tamarisk bushes along Oued Sahel, 20.IV.1989; Saharidj, 650m, 1 male in pitfall in *Pistacia* maquis, 5.I.1988.

Boumerdes : Bordj Menael, 30m, 4 females, stones in *Eucalyptus* plantation, 4.II.1988; Reghaia, 5m, 2 males 6 females, pitfalls in *Quercus suber* maquis, 12.IV.1985.

W. El Tarf : El Kala, N. Lake Tonga, 10m, 2 females in pitfalls in *Pinus halepensis* forest, 28.III.1988; idem, 4 females in *Quercus suber* forest, 29.III.1988; El Kala, E. Cap Rosa, 2 males in pitfalls in coastal maquis, 29.III.1988; El Kala, Lake Oubeira, 10m, 4 females in *Quercus suber* forest, 30.III.1988; El Kala, 50m, 2 females, stones in *Quercus suber* forest, 29.III.1988.

W. Khenechela : Zoui E., 900m, 1 female in litter of *Populus alba* forest, 11.XI.1988.
W. Mostagenem : Ben Abdel Malek Ramdane, 25m, 1 female in pitfall in young *Pinus* plantation, 25.V.1990.

W. Skikda : Ben Azouz, 200m, 1 male 1 female in *Eucalyptus* plantation, 2.III.1990; W. Collo, Tamanart, 25m, 1 male 1 female, stones in grassland, 6.VI.1987.


W. Tizi Ouzou : Aïn-el-Hammam, 1150m, 1 female, stones around hotel, 9.III.1990; Boukhalfa, 180m, 1 male 1 female in *Olea* maquis, 8.III.1990; El Tetla, 180m, 1 female in pitfalls in grassland, 16.III.1990; Oued Assi, 250m, 2 females, stones along Oued Assi, 15.IV.1982.

MOROCCO

P. Casablanca : Casablanca, 1 male, IV.1984, J. Mertens leg.

P. Rabat : Aïn-el-Aouda N., 1 female, 8.II.1996.

P. Taza : cascades de Ras-el-Oued, 1000m, 1 male in herbs, 22.IV.1984.


TUNISIA


G. Le Kef : Sakiet Sidi Youcef E., 850m, 1 female, stones in *Pinus* forest, 5.III.2005.


Distribution

BOSMANS (1985) cited the species from Algeria in the wilaya’s of Annaba, Bejaia and Tizi Ouzou, and from one locality in Tunisia. Several new localities from Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia are added here. *Canariphantes zonatus* appears to be a common species in the north of the Maghreb.

Improphantes
(Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 1996)

The genus Improphantes was recently created by SAARISTO & TANASEVITCH (1996) for several species formerly included in Lepthyphantes. While males of the genus are diagnosed by the sickle-shaped embolus with open sulcus, no unambiguous characters common for the females are actually known. In Northern Africa, Lepthyphantes decolor Westring was placed in Improphantes and Lepthyphantes djazairi Bosmans is here transferred to it as well.

Improphantes decolor
(Westring, 1862)

Lepthyphantes decolor; Bosmans, 1985 : 153, figs 6d-f (descr. male, female).

Improphantes decolor; Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 1996 : 177 (transfer from Lepthyphantes).

Description and diagnosis
See Bosmans, 1985.

New material examined
ALGERIA
W. Batna : Belezma Mountains, Col Telmet, 1820m, 2 males in pitfalls in Cedrus atlantica forest, 28.II.1988.

W. Blida : Atlas Blidéen, Meurdja, 950m, 2 females in pitfalls in Cedrus atlantica plantation, 10.III.1988; Bougara, Djebel Bou Noua, 850m, 1 female, stones in mixed forest, 1.XII.1983; Djebel Mouzaia, 1400m, 1 male in Quercus faginea litter, 4.XI.1985, and 2 females, 22.V.1985.


W. Chleff : Damous, 50m, 1 female in pitfall in Pinus halepensis forest, 11.IV.1979; Tacheta, 850m, 2 females in pitfalls in Quercus faginea forest, 4.II-25.IV.1988.

W. M’sila : Hodna Mountains, Djebel Maadid, 1600m, 4 females in pitfalls in grassland, 1.I.1990.


Distribution
South Scandinavia, Central and southwest Europe, Algeria.

Improphantes djazairi
(Bosmans, 1985) Comb. n.

Lepthyphantes djazairi Bosmans, 1985 : 150, figs 10d-e (descr. female); Bosmans & Bouragba, 1992 : 258, figs 23-27 (descr. male).

Remarks
Lepthyphantes djazairi is transferred here to the genus Improphantes, because it corresponds to the diagnosis proposed by SAARISTO & TANASEVITCH (1996). It is closely related to I. decolor.

Description and diagnosis

New material examined
None. All additional records were already cited in Bosmans & Bouragba, 1992.

Distribution
A species with a large distribution at higher altitudes in the Algerian Atlas.

Genus Megalepthyphantes
(Wunderlich, 1994)

The genus was Megalepthyphantes created by WUNDERLICH (1994) for the larger Lepthyphantes species of the nebulosus group, first defined by WIEHLE (1956). SAARISTO & TANASEVITCH (2000) transferred L. bkheitae Bosmans & Bouragba to the new genus, and two more new species are described here.

Megalepthyphantes bkheitae
(Bosmans & Bouragba, 1992)


Megalepthyphantes bkheitae; Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 2000 : 264 (transfer from Lepthyphantes).

Description and diagnosis

New material examined
None.

Distribution
Only known from Algeria in the region of Djelfa.

Megalepthyphantes auresensis sp. n.
(Figs 18-24)

Lepthyphantes cfr. collinus; Bosmans 1985 : 142.

Type material
Holotype male from Algeria, W. Batna, Aures Massif, Belezma Mountains, Kef Islane, 1800m, pitfall in Cedrus atlantica forest, 26.II.1988. Paratypes : 3 males, same data; 2 females, in mosses, 8.IV.1982; deposited in KBIN and CRB.

Diagnosis
Closely related to M. bkheitae, males clearly differentiated by 3 unequal terminal teeth of the lamella (Fig. 18),
and females by the strong posterior incision of anterior part of the epigynal scape (Fig. 22).

**Etymology**

The name is derived from the type locality, the Aures Massif in the Algerian Tell Atlas.

**Remarks**

This species was cited in Bosmans (1985) as *Leptyphantes cfr. collinus*.

**Description**

Measurements: Male: total length 3.3-3.8; prosoma 1.72-1.76 long, 1.36-1.44 wide. Female: total length 3.4-4.6; prosoma 1.30-1.68 long, 1.04-1.36 wide.

Cephalothorax yellowish brown with broad median and lateral grey stripes; legs yellowish brown, Fe and Ti with two dark grey annulations; abdomen pale grey, with darker chevrons.

Legs: Spination: Fe: pl; Ti: 2d, 2pv, 2 rv, 1 pv, 1 rv; Mt: d, pl, rl.

Measurements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fe</th>
<th>Pa</th>
<th>Ti</th>
<th>Mt</th>
<th>Ta</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>3.16</td>
<td>0.53</td>
<td>2.84</td>
<td>3.08</td>
<td>1.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>2.86</td>
<td>0.44</td>
<td>2.60</td>
<td>2.84</td>
<td>1.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Palp (Figs 18-21): Tibia with two long, curved spines; distal part of tibia strongly chitinised, with blunt anterodorsal apophysis; proximal part of paracymbium with blunt median tooth; lamella curved, prolateral part with three unequal teeth, retrolateral part larger and curved, terminally pointed; embolus sigmoid.

Epigyne (Fig. 22): Scape folded, anterior part of scape wider than long, with strong lateral and postero-median incisions, posterior part of scape visible in the incision.

Vulva (Figs 23, 24): Copulation ducts running throughout the scape.

---

Lepthyphantes sensu lato in the Maghreb

Other material examined

ALGERIA

‘Alger’, 1 female (MNHNP 4259).

W. Batna : Aures Massif, S’gag forest, 1800m, 2 females in pitfalls in Cedrus atlantica forest, 18.IV.1982; between Tazoult Lambese and S’gag, 1650m, 1 subadult female among stones in grassland, 16.X.1987.

W. Setif : Djemilia, 950m, 1 female, stones in ruins, 6.II.1988.

W. Aïn Sefra : Mecheria, 5 females (MNHNP 6179).

Distribution

Only known from mountains in Tell and Sahara Atlas in Algeria.

Ecology

A species of forests of high altitudes in the inland of Algeria, with adults collected at the end of the winter and in the beginning of spring.

Megalepthyphantes hellinckxorum sp. n.

(Figs 25-31)

Type material

Holotype male from Algeria, W. Tissemsilt, Ouarsenis Massif, Theniet-el-Had, Djebel Meddad, 1400m, pitfall in open Cedrus atlantica – Quercus ilex forest, 23.III.1988; paratypes : 2 females, idem, 1500m, pitfall in dense Cedrus atlantica forest, 4.V.1989; deposited in KBIN (1 male, 1 female) and CRB (1 female).

Diagnosis

M. hellinckxorum is closely related to M. bkheitae and M. auresensis. Males are easily distinguished by the ribbon-like lamella with terminal denticules (Fig. 27), and females by the less incised anterior part of the scape (difference with auresensis), and by the quadrangular posterior part of the scape (Fig. 28; rectangular in bkheitae).

Etymology

The species is dedicated to the Hellinckx family, especially to Bram Hellinckx, in commemoration of the birth of his son Beau.

Description

Measurements: Male: total length 3.6; prosoma 1.94 long, 1.60 wide; chelicerae 0.72 long. Female: total length 4.0-4.3; prosoma 1.52-1.76 long, 1.26-1.30 wide.

Colour and spination as in L. bkheitae.

Legs: Measurements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fe</th>
<th>Pa</th>
<th>Ti</th>
<th>Mt</th>
<th>Ta</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>3.04</td>
<td>0.54</td>
<td>2.48</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>2.68</td>
<td>0.48</td>
<td>2.44</td>
<td>2.76</td>
<td>1.46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Palp (Figs 25-27): Differing from the preceding species: tibia dorsally with well developed, blunt apophysis and strongly elevated dorsal ridge, delimiting a deep depression; basal branch of paracymbium with relatively small median tooth; prolateral part of lamella a straight sclerite with subterminal concavity, retrolateral part longer, ribbon-like, terminally denticulate.

Epigyne (Figs 28-29): Anterior part of scape rather elongated, only slightly wider than long. Posterior part of scape rectangular.

Vulva: Figs 30-31.

Other material examined

A female in the MNHNP has an epigyne that is very similar to the epigyne of M. hellinckxorum and is here, in the absence of males, provisionally listed: W. El Bayadh: El Bayadh (as Géryville; MNHNP 4279).

Distribution

Algeria, the Ouarsenis Massif and one probable record 200 km to the south.

Genus Palliduphantes (Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 2001)

The genus Palliduphantes was recently created by Saaristo & Tanasevitch (2001) for species formerly included in the pallidus-, insignis- and spelaeorum group of Lepthyphantes. They included 48 species, but some seem to be misplaced, as for instance P. atlissahariensis, transferred here to Camariphantes. In Northern Africa, Lepthyphantes cadiziensis Wunderlich, Lepthyphantes kalaensis Bosmans and Lepthyphantes labilis Simon were included in Palliduphantes. Recently, Bosmans (2003) described Palliduphantes chenini and in the present paper, two more species are described.

Palliduphantes cadiziensis (Wunderlich, 1980) (Figs 32-39)

Lepthyphantes cfr. bolivari; Brignoli 1978: 108, fig.1 (descr. male; misidentified).


Palliduphantes cadiziensis; Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 2001: 6 (transfer from Lepthyphantes).

Type material

Holotype male from Spain, Cadiz, 12 km WNW Algeciras, Sierra del Nióo, 3.IV.1972 (Wunderlich 1980); not examined.

Diagnosis

Males of this species may easily be recognised by the long, bifurcate lamella (Fig. 32), females by the strongly folded scape with narrowing distal part (Figs 34, 35).

Remarks

In his original description, Wunderlich (1980) placed L. cadiziensis in the teniens group of Lepthyphantes. However, the shape of the embolic division and the folded epigyne indicate that it has to be placed in the pallidus group of Lepthyphantes, so Saaristo & Tanasevitch (2001) correctly integrated the species in the genus Palliduphantes.

Brignoli (1978) identified a male from Gibraltar as L. cfr. bolivari Fage, but according to his figure of the male palp, it is P. cadiziensis as well. P. bolivari has a much shorter lamella in the male palp and a wider distal part of the epigynal scape in the female.

Description

Measurements: Male: total length 1.6-1.9; prosoma 0.80-0.88 long, 0.64-0.68 wide. Female: total length 2.1-3.5; prosoma 0.88-0.98 long, 0.72-0.84 wide.

Colour: Prosoma and legs pale yellowish to pale yellow; abdomen grey to dark grey, often with paler spots and bars.

Legs: Fe I : pl; Ti I : 2d, pl, rl; TiII : 2d, rl; TiIII-IV : 2d; MtI-IV : d.

Palp (Figs 32-33): Dorsal spines on patella and tibia of equal length, twice the diameter of the segment; cymbium without tubercle; proximal branch and median part of paracymbium both with basal tooth; distal part slender, rounded terminally; lamella strongly elongated, terminally bifid; embolus pointed, with accompanying lobe.

Epigyne (Figs 34-37): Strongly protruding; anterior part of scape semi-circular, with two lobe-like internal appendages; posterior part of scape rhomboid; stretcher small, slightly wider than long.


Previous citations

GIBRALTAR


SPAIN

Cadiz: 12 km WNW Algeciras, Sierra del Nióo (Wunderlich, 1980).

New material examined

MOROCCO

P. Tetouan: between Tetouan and Chechaouen, 520m, 2 males 3 females in herbs along a rivulet, 30.IV.1984; Tetoutan S., 10m, 1 female, dunes along Oued Hadjera, 20.IV.1984.

**Distribution**

Andalucia in the southwest of Spain and the northwest of Morocco.

---

**Palliduphantes chenini**

*Bomsans, 2003*

*Palliduphantes chenini* Bomsans, 2003: 104, figs 1-6 (descr. male, female).

**Description and diagnosis**

See Bomsans (2003).

**New material examined**

None.

**Distribution**

The extreme south of Tunisia.

**Palliduphantes kalaensis**

*(Bomsans, 1985)*

*Leptyphantes kalaensis* Bomsans 1985: 145, figs 3a-d, 4a-c, 11a (descr. male, female).

*Palliduphantes kalaensis*; Bomsans, 2003: 104 (transfer from *Leptyphantes*).
Description and diagnosis

See Bosmans (1985).

Further material examined

ALGERIA

W. El Tarf: Lake Tonga, 10m, 1 male 2 females, pitfalls in Alnus forest, 28.III.1988.

Distribution

Only known from the region of El Kala in the extreme northeast of Algeria.

Palliduphantes labilis (Simon, 1913)

Leptphyphantes labilis Simon 1913: 370, fig.3 (descr. male, female); Bosmans 1985: 142 figs 4d-f, 5a-d, 11d (descr. male, female).

Palliduphantes labilis; Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 2001: 6 (transfer from Leptphyphantes).

Description and diagnosis

See Bosmans (1985).

New material examined

ALGERIA


W. Annaba: Chetaibi, 810m, 1 female, stones in grassland, 2.3.III.1990.

W. Bejaia: between Aokas and Tizi Ghenif, 5m, 1 male, pitfalls in Pistacea maquis in dunes, 25.XI.1989; El Faye, 800m, 1 female, pitfalls in Zizyphus bushes, 1.XII.1988.

W. Blida: Chrea, 1000m, 2 males in pitfalls in Quercus faginea forest, 10.V.1982; La Chiffa, 250m, 3 males, pitfalls in orange garden, 21.II.1989.

W. Bordj Bou Arreridj: Sidi Embarek, 900m, 3 females, stones in cultivated land, 27.II.1990.

W. Bouira: Djurdjura massif, Tigounatine, 1460m, 1 female, pitfalls in Cedrus atlantica forest, 12.VII.1988.

W. Boumerdes: Ain Taya, 50m, 3 males 2 females, pitfalls in garden, 20.VI.1989; Lakhdira, 115m, 1 male in Olea litter along Oued Olla, 1 male in herbs along Oued Bou-Hamoud, 20.IV.1990.

W. El Tarf: Lake Tonga, 10m, 1 male 2 females, pitfalls in Alnus forest, 28.III.1988; Sidi Embarek, 10m, 1 male 1 female in pitfalls in Olea maquis, 2.III.1990.

W. Guelma: Ain Regada, 600m, 2 females, herbs along Oued Zenati, 22.XI.1989; Bouche gouf, 600m, 3 females, herbs along Oued Seybousse, 22.XI.1989; Ham ham Meskoutine, 410m, 1 male in grass tussocks, 28.II.1990.

W. Souk Ahras: Hadjar N.E., Barrage de la Cheffia, 250m, 2 males in pitfalls in Pistacea maquis, 28.II.1990.

W. Skikda: Bouchata, 400m, 1 male, stones in grassland, 12.II.1990.

W. Tissemsilt: Theniet-el-Had, Djebel Meddad, 1500m, 1 male, pitfalls in Cedrus atlantica forest, 4.V.1989.

W. Tizi Ouzou: Azeffoun S., Alma Guechtoum, 600m, 1 female, Olea maquis, 27.IV.1990; forêt de Mizrana, 300m, 4 males 1 female, stones in Quercus suber forest, 26.I.1990; Tizigirt E., 50m, 1 male 1 female, stones in grassland, 26.I.1990; Timizar Laghbar, 210m, 1 male 1 female, stones in Quercus faginea forest, 25.I.1990; Tizi Ouzou, 5km E., 180m, 1 male 6 females, wet grassland on slope, 25.I.1990 and 1 male 4 females, 11.III.1990; Djurdjura massif: Tala Guilef, 1420m, 1 male 1 female, pitfalls in Cedrus atlantica forest, 21.III.1989; idem, Col de Tizi ‘n Kouilal, 1510m, 2 males 6 females, pitfalls in montane grassland, 1.XII.1991; idem, Tizi Boussoul, 1750m, 1 male 4 females, pitfalls in montane grassland, 1.XII.1991.

W. Tlemcen: Traras Mountains, between El Arba and El Arabienne, 300m, 1 male, pitfalls in Pistacea maquis, 24.V.1990.

TUNISIA

G. Beja: Beja 15 km N., 250m, 1 male, stones bordering fields, 27.II.2005.

G. Jendouba: Chemtou, 250m, 2 females, stones in roman ruins, 6.III.2005; Fernana N., 450m, 1 male 1 female, stones in maquis, 6.III.2005; Tabarka, at E. entrance of the city, 50m, 1 male, stones in wasteland, 28.II.2005; Tabarka S., plain of Oued Kebir, 1 female, stones in grassland, 7.III.2005; Tabarka, 1 female, stones around fortress, 7.III.2005.

G. Le Kef: Hammam Mellégue, 800m, 2 females, stones in small Pinus forest, 4.III.2005; Touniref SE., 650m, 1 male 1 female, stones in grassland, 5.II.2005.


G. Zaghoun: Saouaf E., 250m, 1 female, stones in maquis, 27.II.2005.

Distribution

The north of Algeria and Tunisia, where it is a common species.

Palliduphantes tricuspus sp. n. (Figs 46-47)

Type material

Holotype male from Algeria, W. Skikda, between Djendel and Larbi Ben Mhid, 200m, litter of Quercus ilex, 2.3.III.1990; deposited in KBIN.

Diagnosis

This species is closely related to L. yakourensis sp. n., described further in this paper. Males differ by the disposition of the hairs on the paracymbium, by the trifid lamella (Fig. 46) and by the differently shaped terminal apophysis (Fig. 47). The female is unknown.
**Etymology**

The name is derived from the Latin 'tricuspis' ('with three teeth'), referring to the trifid distal part of the lamella.

**Description**

Measurements: Male: total length 1.8; prosoma 0.78 long, 0.60 wide.

Colour: Prosoma olive brown, fovea, margin and striae suffused with grey; legs yellowish brown; abdomen dark grey, with a pair of elongated, pale grey antero-dorsal spots.

Posterior median eyes separated by 3/4 their diameter.

Chelicerae: with 14-15 indistinct stridulating ridges, and with 3 anterior and 5 small posterior teeth.

Legs: Fe I: pl; Ti I: 2d, pl, rl; TiII: 2d, rl; TiIII-IV: 2d; MtI-IV: d. Measurements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fe</th>
<th>Pa</th>
<th>Ti</th>
<th>Mt</th>
<th>Ta</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>0.24</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>1.06</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>1.01</td>
<td>1.02</td>
<td>0.68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Palp (Figs 46-47): Dorsal spines on patella and tibia of equal length, twice the diameter of the segment; cymbium without tubercle; proximal branch and median part of paracymbium both with sharp basal tooth, distal part with blunt lateral tooth, terminally rounded; lamella elongated, terminally trifid; terminal apophysis composed of several teeth, all pointed, three directed anteriorly, one shorter and directed antero-laterally; embolus nearly straight.

Female: Unknown.

**Other material examined**

None.

**Distribution**

Only known from the type locality in the northeast of Algeria.

---

**Palliduphantes yakourensis** sp. n.

(Figs 40-45)

**Type material**

Holotype male from Algeria, W. Tizi Ouzou, forest of Yakouren, 820m, litter in *Alnus* forest, 24.1.1990 (deposited in KBIN); paratypes: 2 males 7 females, same data (1 male 4 females deposited in KBIN, 1 male 3 females in MNHNIP).

**Diagnosis**

This species is closely related to *L. kalaensis*, occurring in the Northeast of Algeria. Males differ by the bifid tip of the lamella (Fig. 40), females by details in the shape of the scape: the longer anterior part of the scape and the longer lateral lobes, as visible in lateral view, and the less curved stretcher (Figs 42, 43).

**Etymology**

The species is named after the forest where it was first discovered, the Yakouren forest.

**Description**

Measurements: Male: total length 1.6-2.1; prosoma 0.74-0.90 long, 0.62-0.74 wide. Female: Total length 2.0-2.4; prosoma 0.70-0.92 long, 0.62-0.74 wide.

Colour: Prosoma yellowish brown, margin, striae and fovea region grey; legs yellowish brown, dark specimens
with faint grey annulations on femora and tibiae; abdomen grey, distal part darker and with 4-5 pale chevrons; some females with dark grey abdomen, with clearly marked pale chevrons; two females collected in an ancient mine are much paler.

Eye disposition, chelicerae and spination as in the preceding species.

**Leg measurements**:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>I</th>
<th>Pa</th>
<th>Ti</th>
<th>Mt</th>
<th>Ta</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fe</td>
<td>1.22</td>
<td>0.24</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>0.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>1.23</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>1.34</td>
<td>1.18</td>
<td>0.82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Palp (Figs 40-41): Dorsal spines on patella and tibia of equal length, twice the diameter of the segment; cymbium without tubercle; proximal branch and median part of paracymbium with sharp basal tooth, distal part with blunt lateral tooth, terminally rounded; lamella very long, terminally bifid; terminal apophysis trifid, with a short, laterally directed tooth, a long and pointed median tooth, and a somewhat shorter mesal one, strongly widened in the middle.

Epigyne (Figs 42-43): Lateral plates strongly developed; scape elongated, folded, anterior, visible part gently curved, median hidden part straight, distal part a small stretcher.

Vulva (Figs 44-45): Spermathecae oval; sperm ducts running throughout the scape, terminating just before the stretcher in poorly defined copulation pores.

**Material examined**

**ALGERIA**


W. Boumerdes: between Zougara and Toulmout, 350m, 2 females in abandoned mine, 18.X.1989.

W. Ech Chleff: forêt de Tacheta, 850m, 1 male 1 female in litter in *Quercus faginea* forest, 29.IV.1987.

W. Tizi Ouzou: forêt d’Akfadou, S. Col de Tagma, 910m, 1 female in litter of mixed *Quercus faginea* and *Q. suber* forest, 25.II.1988; forêt de Yakouren, 820m, 3 females in litter in forest of *Quercus faginea*, 24.II.1988; idem, 850 m, 1 male 5 females in litter in mixed *Quercus faginea* and *Q. suber* forest, 4.XII.1986.

**Distribution**

The extreme central north of Algeria, from Ech Chleff in the west to Tizi Ouzou in the east.
The genus *Tenuiphantes* was recently created by SAARISTO & TANASEVITCH (2001) for several species formerly included in the well-known teniids group of *Lepthyphantes* (see VAN HELSDINGEN et al., 1977). In the Maghreb, *Lepthyphantes herbicola* Simon and *Lepthyphantes tenuis* (Blackwall) have been included in it.

**Tenuiphantes herbicola**
*(Simon, 1884)*


*Tenuiphantes herbicola*; Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 1996: 182 (transfer from *Lepthyphantes*).

**Description and diagnosis**

See Van HELSDINGEN et al., 1977.

**New material examined**

**ALGERIA**

W. Alger: Forêt de Bainem, 300m, 2 females, litter in *Pinus canariensis* forest, 30.IV.1984.

W. Blida: Atlas Blidéen, Chrea, 1000m, 2 males in pitfalls in *Quercus faginea* forest, 20.V.1985 and 1290m, 1 male in pitfalls in *Cedrus atlantica* forest, 16.VII.1988; Meftah, 450m, 4 females in litter of *Arbutus unedo*, 7.III.1985.

W. Boumerdes: Reghaia, 20m, 2 females in pitfalls in *Olea maquis*, 15.I.1984; Reghaia, 45m, 8 females in pitfalls in *Quercus suber* forest, 2.V.1984.

W. El Tarf: El Kala, Lake Tonga N., 10m, 6 males 5 females in pitfalls in *Quercus halepensis* forest, 28.III.1987; El Kala, Lake Oubeira, 10m, 2 males 1 female in pitfalls in *Quercus suber* forest, 30.III.1988 and 1 female, 15.I.1996, K. de Smet leg.; Haddada, 6 males 10 females, 5.IX.1996, K. de Smet leg.

W. Tipasa: Bouchaoui, 95m, 4 males 7 females in pitfalls in *Ulmus* forest, 27.I.1987; Sidi Fredj, 25m, 10 males 13 females in pitfalls in *Pinus halepensis* forest, 18.XII.1986-20.XII.1987; idem, 10m, 3 males 7 females in pitfalls in *Olea* maquis, 19.I.1987; Zeralda, Oued Mazafan, 5m, 2 males 3 females in litter of *Quercus faginea* forest, 24.II.1988.

W. Tizi Ouzou: Yakouren E., 820m, 4 females in litter in *Quercus faginea* forest, 4.XII.1986; idem, 4 females in pitfalls in *Alnus* forest, 27.IV.1990.

**Distribution**

Occurring in the humid zone of Algeria, in BOSMANS (1985) only cited from the wilaya’s of Alger and El Tarf, here also cited from the wilaya’s of Blida, Boumerdes, Tipasa and Tizi Ouzou.

**Tenuiphantes tenuis**
*(Blackwall, 1852)*

*Leptephyantes tenuis*; van Helsdingen et al., 1977: 17, figs 16-18, 58 (redescr. male, female) Bosmans 1985: 143 (citation).

*Tenuiphantes tenuis*; Saaristo & Tanasevitch, 1996: 182 (transfer from *Lepthyphantes*).

**Description and diagnosis**

See Van HELSDINGEN et al., 1977.

**New material examined**

**ALGERIA**


W. Alger: Bainem, 100m, 1 male 1 female in *Pinus maritimus* forest, 12.V.1986; Beaulieu, 50m, 1 female in garden, 19.V.1988; Houssein Dey, 50m, 3 females in litter in park, 29.XII.1987.

W. Bejaia: Aokas, 10m, 2 females in grassland in dunes, 22.X.1989; mouth of Oued Daas, 10m, 1 female, stones bordering maquis, 22.V.1988.

W. Blida: Ain-el-Hammam, 125m, 1 female, stones along Oued Bou Maan, 23.V.1989; Atlas Blidéen, Chrea: 850m, 2 males 2 females, pitfalls in *Quercus suber* forest, 27.III.1985, K. De Smet leg.; idem, 1045m, 7 males 5 females, pitfalls in *Quercus ilex* forest, 28.IV.1987; idem, 1200m, 1 male 1 female, stones near fountain in forest, 8.IV.1985, K. De Smet leg.; idem, les Glacières, 1290m, 12 males 2 females, pitfalls in *Cedrus atlantica* forest, 15.II.1987-9.V.1988; idem, Ghellai, 1350m, 16 males 10 females in pitfalls in planted *Cedrus atlantica* forest, 20.VI.1987-9.V.1988; idem, Pic Fertas, 1450m, 25 males 7 females, pitfalls in *Cedrus atlantica* forest, 12.IV.1987-9.V.1988; Djebel Mouzaia, 1200m, 1 female, stones around lake, 10.IV.1987, and 1350m, 1 male 1 female, stones in maquis, 6.X.1987, K. De Smet leg.; Meftah, Djebel Zerouela, 480m, 2 males 2 females in pitfalls in *Quercus suber* forest, 6.V.1987; Meurdja, 1000m, 6 males 6 females in pitfalls in planted *Cedrus atlantica* forest, 15.VI.1987-22.IX.1988.

W. Bouira: Djurdjura massif, Tigounatine, 1460m, 24 males 7 females in pitfalls in *Cedrus atlantica* forest, 11.IV-13.VII.1987; S. Sour el Gozlane, Col de Dirah, 900m, 1 female in pitfalls in grassland, 10.IV.1988.

W. Boumerdes: Reghaia, 5m, 15 males 17 females, pitfalls in salt marsh, 3.V.1989; idem, 15m, 2 males 2 females in pitfalls in *Populus alba* forest, 13.VI.1989.

W. Ech Chleff: Damous, 5m, 1 male 2 females, stones near beach, and 1 female, pitfalls in *Pinus halepensis* forest.

W. El Tarf: El Kala, 50m, 1 female, litter in *Quercus suber* forest, 28.II.1988; Lake Oubeira, 10m, 1 female, litter along lake, 28.XII.1984, K. De Smet leg.; Lake Tonga, 10m, 4 males 2 females in pitfalls in *Pinus halepensis* forest, 28.III.1987 and 1 female, litter in *Quercus suber* forest, 23.XI.1989.
W. Laghrouat: Oued M’zi, 750m, 1 male 1 female, Phragmites litter, 12.XII.1987.

W. Medea: Col des Deux Bassins, 920m, 1 male 1 female, pitfalls in Cedrus atlantica plantation, 23.X.1988.

W. Oran: Dariet el Bragat, 100m, 2 females, dry Salicornia tufts, 25.IV.1984.

W. Saida: maison forestière de Merdja, 750m, 2 females, litter in Populus alba forest, 4.V.1984; Cascades de Tifrit, 1550m, 4 males in pitfalls in Cedrus atlantica forest, 2.XII.1988.

W. Setif: Djemila, 950m, 1 male, stones in ruins, 6.II.1988; Djebel Babor, 1850m, 2 males 3 females, litter in Cedrus atlantica forest, 20.VI.1986 and 1550m, 4 males in pitfalls in Cedrus atlantica forest, 2.XII.1988.

W. Skikda: W. Collo, Tamanart, 15m, 1 female, beating Alnus branches, 6.VI.1987.

W. Souk Ahras: Bou Hadjar, 900m, 1 female, litter in degraded Quercus ilex forest, 9.II.1988.

W. Tipasa: Bouchaoui, 95m, 8 males 12 females, pitfalls in Ulmus forest, 1.I.1987-12.I.1988; Douaouda, Oued Mazafran, 50m, 1 male 4 females, pitfalls in Populus alba forest, 5.I.1987; Sidi Fredj, 10m, 1 male 1 female, pitfalls in maquis in dunes, 19.I.1987; Sebaou-el-Kedim, 50m, 2 females, stones in dry grassland, 10.V.1988; Tigzirt, 50m, 1 female, stones in grassland, 26.I.1990; Zeralda, 10m, 1 female, pitfall in maquis in dunes, 23.II.1988.

W. Tissemsilt: Theniet-el-Had, 1540m, 1 male, pitfall in Cedrus atlantica forest, 18.V.1988.

W. Tizi Ouzou: Azeffoun S., Alma Guechtoum, 600m, 1 female, litter in maquis, 27.IV.1990; El Tetla, 180m, 1 male, litter along Oued Boghni, 10.V.1986; Hammam Melouane, 200m, 1 female, stones along Oued El Harrach, 15.III.1987; forêt de Mizrana, 300m, 1 female, stones bordering Quercus suber forest, 26.I.1990; Sebaou-el-Kedim, 50m, 2 females, stones in dry grassland, 10.V.1988; Tizi Zirzit, 50m, 1 female, stones in grassland, 26.I.1990; Djerdjura massif: Aït Ouabane, 1410m, 8 males 7 females, pitfalls in Cedrus atlantica forest, 24.IX.1987-23.VII.1988; idem, Tizi Boussouil, 1750m, 8 males 5 females, I-XII.1989; idem, Col de Tizi ‘n Kouilal, 1480m, 7 males 3 females, pitfalls in alpine grassland, I-XII.1999; Tala Guilef, 1400m, 9 males 5 females, pitfalls in Cedrus atlantica forest, 18.IX.1989.

MOROCCO:

P. Chechaouen: Chechaouen E., 500m, 1 male 1 female, litter in Quercus suber forest, 15.V.1984; Bab Bered W., 1525m, 5 males 4 females, stones in Quercus faginea forest, 15.V.1984.

P. Ifrane: Dayet Ifrah, 1780m, 1 female, grasses around lake, 14.V.1984.

P. Khenifra: Aguelmane Azigza, 1550m, 3 females, stones bordering lake, 13.V.1984.


P. Taza: Cascades de Ras-el-Oued, 1000m, 4 females, grasses near water, 22.IV.1984; Djebel Tazeka, 1850m, 1 male, pitfall in Cedrus atlantica forest, 8.V.1984.

P. Tetouan: Tetouan, Oued Hadjera, 10m, 1 female in abandoned garden, 20.IV.1984.

TUNISIA

G. Aïn Draham: Djebel Rhorra, 1 male 1 female, 18.IX.1996, K. De Smet leg.

Distribution

Cosmopolitan. In the Maghreb, it is one of the most common linyphiid spiders.

REVIEW OF SPECIES OF THE MAGHREB

The following species of Lepthyphantes sensu lato occur in the Maghreb countries:

Genus Lepthyphantes sensu stricto
Lepthyphantes minutus Blackwall

The afer complex
Lepthyphantes afer (Simon)
Lepthyphantes brevihamatus Bosmans
Lepthyphantes emarginatus Fage
Lepthyphantes longihamatus Bosmans
Lepthyphantes ritaes Bosmans
Lepthyphantes strinatii Hubert
Lepthyphantes venerus Simon

Not placed in any complex by Saaristo & Tanasevitch (1996):

Lepthyphantes aelleni Denis
Lepthyphantes ajoti Bosmans
Lepthyphantes exvaginatus Deeleman
Lepthyphantes lagunculus Denis
Lepthyphantes linyphioides Denis
Lepthyphantes maurius Brignoli
Lepthyphantes pieltaini Machado

Genus Canariphantes
Canariphantes atlassahariensis (Bosmans) Comb. n.
Canariphantes homonymus (Denis)
Canariphantes naiil (Bosmans & Bouragba)
Canariphantes zonatus (Simon) Comb. n.

Genus Improphantes
Improphantes decolor (Westring)
Improphantes djazairi (Bosmans)

Genus Megalepthyphantes
Megalepthyphantes aurensensis sp. n.

Genus Palliduphantes
Palliduphantes cadiziensis (Wunderlich)
Palliduphantes chenini Bosmans
Palliduphantes kalaulensis (Bosmans)
Palliduphantes labilis (Simon)
Palliduphantes tricuspis sp. n.
Palliduphantes yakourensis sp. n.

Genus Temaiphantes
Tenuiphantes herbicola (Simon)
Tenuiphantes tenuis (Blackwall)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Christine Rollard (MNHN) is thanked for the loan of specimens.

REFERENCES


