Special Issue

Mites: Systematics, Ecology, and Evolution

Message from the Guest Editor

Mites and ticks are ancient hyperdiverse groups of arachnids that occupy a wide range of terrestrial and aqueous niches. Some of them are dangerous pests that cause serious problems for agriculture, or parasites of human and animals that transmit various pathogens. Although almost 50,000 acariform mites species have been already described, thousands more remain undiscovered in nature or undescribed in the collections of acarologists worldwide. Miniaturization is the main trend that determined the general evolutionary path of various mite clades. It is for this reason that exploring the diversity of mites is painstaking and timeconsuming. In addition to conventional light microscopy, nowadays, mites are investigated with the aid of various advanced equipment, genetic and statistical techniques, algorithms and software, which allows us to solve the previously encountered problems. This Special Issue presents a series of high-quality papers that cover different areas of acarology, with a special focus on the diversity, ecology and evolution of acariform mites.

Guest Editor

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