

GUTIERREZ J., DELOBEL A. & GANGA T. (1985). - Mononychellus progresivus Doreste in the Republic of Congo. Cassava Newsletter, 9(1): 16.

Mononychellus progresivus Doreste in the Republic of Congo

J. Gutierrez¹, and A. Delobel and I. Ganga² report on the samples of cassava green spider mites collected in the Republic of Congo which were identified in 1981 as *Mononychellus progresivus* Doreste. This species, recently recorded for the first time in Africa (in Gabon and Nigeria by C.H.W. Flechtmann, IITA) was up to now mistaken for *Mononychellus tanajoa* (Bondar).

Both species originate from South America. Since both feed on the lower surface of cassava leaves and cause similar damages, they are difficult to differentiate by the naked eye. Under the microscope, females of *M. progresivus* may be readily distinguished from

those of *M. tanajoa* by the dorsal setae of the body. These are long and slender in the first species and short and broadened in the latter. In *M. progresivus*, the fourth pair of dorsolaterals is shorter than the first three pairs. The first three pairs of dorsocentrals successively increase in length, from the first pair towards the third.

The reproductive organ of *M. progresivus* males has a straight and gradually narrowing shaft. The distal part is more or less triangular with a small anteroventrally-directed angulation and the end acutely tapering.

The *Manihot esculenta* Crantz collections examined were: HOMBE, 10-IX-1984; MBANZA-NDOUNGA 10-IX-1984; ODZIBA, 31-VIII-1984; VOKA, 9-IX-1984; Brazzaville, 15-IX-1984, ETOGO, 22-31-1984; BOKO-SONGHO, 31-I-1985.

This publication may be of interest to you: "Cassava, new potential for a neglected crop"

Author and year of publication: James H. Cock, 1985

Book characteristics: English language, paperback, 205 pages, 33 illustrations in black and white (photographs, graphics, and maps).

Publishers: Westview, Boulder, Colorado.

The book, pertaining to the IADS (International Agricultural Development Service) series condenses practical and updated information from around the world on cassava and its uses, available technology for its production and processing, and essential features in successful development programs.

Those interested in purchasing this book may obtain additional information from Westview Press, Inc., 5500 Central Avenue, Boulder, Colorado 80301, U.S.A., or from Publications Distribution and Marketing at CIAT, A.A. 6713, Cali, Colombia.

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