

REVISION OF GENUS *SCHIZOSTHETUS* AND
REDESCRIPTION OF TYPE SPECIES *S. LYRIFORMIS*

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ABSTRACT

Schizosthetus (Athias-Henriot, 1982) is a genus of the family Parasitidae which is associated with bark beetles. One of the reasons that encouraged this study was solving the confusion that has been shown in some previous studies in distinguishing this mite in the genus level. Moreover, one of the past recommendations was to investigate different collections of this genus in North and Central America and compare these to old world taxa.

Based on the collections from many different parts of the world (United States of America, Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, Canada, France, Germany, Sweden, and China), this study ended up with the following findings: 1. These collections can be assigned to 3 species; 2. Only one of these three species is found in all areas of North and Central America (except Oregon State). Finally, a full description of the most common North and Central American species *S. lyriformis* that focuses on all parts of body in all stages (especially legs, glands and lyrifissures). This description includes complete illustrations of all parts, and revision of and a key to distinguish the three species from one another.