



ЗАМЕТКА

First Record of *Spinturnix helvetiae* (Acarina, Spinturnicidae) from Croatia [Первая находка *Spinturnix helvetiae* (Acarina, Spinturnicidae) в Хорватии]. — One male and one female specimens of *Spinturnix helvetiae* Deunff, Keller et Aellen, 1986 were collected from adult male *Nyctalus leisleri* (Kuhl, 1817) on 29th September 2008 in Paklenica National Park, (Zadar county, 44°19'N, 15°28'E). Host specimens were caught by mist-net at a water pool nearby a mountain cottage. Measurement of collected specimens of *S. helvetiae* are as follows: idiosoma 1176 µm long, 918 µm wide, 3 pairs sternal setae located outside sternal shield, sternal shield 137 µm long, 88 µm wide, 31 opisthventral setae, dorsal shield 741 µm long, 418 µm wide, 53 opisth dorsal setae; Male: idiosoma 846 µm long, 725 µm wide, 3 pairs of sternal setae located on the sternal shield, 2 pairs outside the shield, sternal shield 302 µm long, 169 µm wide, 14 opisthventral setae, dorsal shield 709 µm long, 515 µm wide, the surface of dorsal shield pitted and 51 opisth dorsal setae. Differences in size and number of endopodal shields, size of sternal and genital shields between representatives of *Spinturnix acuminatus* group of spinturnicid mites infesting *N. leisleri* and *N. noctula* (Schreber, 1774) were noticed already by Pinchuk (1971) and resulted in elevation of *S. helvetiae* to a separate species (Deunff et al. 1986). Uchikawa et al. (1994) considered it as a subspecies *S. acuminatus* (Koch, 1836) for the minimal differences of this species in comparison with others from *acuminatus* group. Ferenc et Mysłajek (2003) reported several new differentiating features for females of this species. For reason the minimum number of specimens we are present only the basic determinant dimensions of the body to distinguish species. Findings of this mite were reported only from several European countries: Switzerland (Deunff et al., 1986; Bruyndonckx et al., 2009), Moldavia (Pinchuk, 1971), Germany (Uchikawa et al., 1994), Byelorussia (Stanyukovich, 1997), Poland (Ferenc, Mysłajek, 2003) and Slovakia (Kaňuch et al., 2005), although much wider distribution is to be expected based on the distribution range of its primary host *N. leisleri* (e. g. across much of Europe and western Asia, eastwards as far as the Urals and Himalayas, north-west Africa, the Canary Islands and Madeira). Our record confirms the occurrence of this species for the first time from Croatia and extends checklist of the spinturnicid mites of this country to two species (cf. Rudnick, 1960). — **M. Ševčík** (Faculty of Natural Sciences, Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra, Slovakia; e-mail: martin.sevcik@ukf.sk), **R. K. Lučan** (Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic; e-mail: rlucan@centrum.cz).