

BOOK REVIEW

REVIEW OF THE MITE FAMILY CHEYLETIDAE. Francis M. Summers and Douglas W. Price (Department of Entomology, University of California at Davis, Davis, California), University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles, California. University of California Publications in Entomology. Volume 61, 1970. 153 p. \$5.50.

Although this publication represents the second worldwide review of cheyletid mites to appear within the last 12 months, it is a significant contribution to acarology. Aside from the obvious advantage of being written in the English language rather than in Russian as was that of V. I. Volgin which appeared in late 1969, the present review simplifies the taxonomy and identification of the Cheyletidae.

The nearly 200 known species of the family are included in a reduced number of genera, 51, as opposed to the 54 designated by Volgin. Although only free-living mites were studied for the review, the generic key contains diagnostic data delineating parasitic and animal-associated genera. Keys to species accompany diagnoses of the polytypic free-living genera. Diagnoses or descriptions and illustrations are given for 64 species, 12 not previously described. Systematically important discussions are appended to the descriptions of many genera and species.

It is unfortunate that Drs. Summers and Price chose not to include the more complete set of distributional data that I am certain their records contain. Their authoritatively verified zoogeographic records would have greatly increased the value of their review. Despite this minor omission, the publication will unquestionably become a bench mark for future studies of these potentially important mites.

MARTIN H. MUMA
Citrus Experiment Station
Lake Alfred, Florida