

**SYNONYMY OF THE GENERA *SITEROPSIS* AND *PEDICULASTER*
(ACARI: HETEROSTIGMATA: PYGMEPHORIDAE)**

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Livshits et al. (1986) created a new monotypic genus *Siteropsis* Livshits, Mitrofanov et Sharonov, 1986, with a type species *Siteroptes prokopius* Samšičák, 1976. The main difference between the genus *Siteropsis* and non-phoretic females of the genus *Pediculaster* Vitzthum, 1927 (= *Siteroptoides* Cross, 1965) is the absence of setae 1c on epimeres I, which is a result of incorrect description of *S. prokopius* (Samšičák, 1979). Samšičák (1979) restudied *S. prokopius* and considered it to represent non-phoretic females of *Pediculaster mesembrinae* (Canestrini, 1881), the type species

of the genus *Pediculaster*. Thus, the genus *Siteropsis* is a junior objective synonym of *Pediculaster*.

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