



Short Note

New records of Psocodea (Insecta) from continental Tanzania

Dilian G. Georgiev^{1, 2, *}, Todor M. Mishev²

¹Department of General Animal Husbandry, Section Ecology and zoology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Trakia University – Stara Zagora, 6000 Stara Zagora, BULGARIA

²Department of Ecology and Environmental Conservation, Faculty of Biology, Plovdiv University “Paisii Hilendarski”, 24 Tsar Assen Str., 4000 Plovdiv, BULGARIA

*E-mail: diliangeorgiev@uni-plovdiv.bg, dilyan.georgiev@trakia-uni.bg
<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2885-4895>

Abstract. Barkflies were collected between 27.02.2026 and 05.03.2026 in various habitats of coastal Tanzania. A total of 17 species were identified from which 14 are new records for Tanzania, some of them new to East Africa or the entire African continent.

Keywords: diversity, East Africa, habitats, psocids, species

Introduction

The Psocodea (Insecta) fauna of continental Tanzania is not well known, and a total of 84 recent species were reported (Lienhard, 2016). In this short communication we report some new records of psocids found in two main localities of coastal continental part of the country.

Material and methods

Barkflies were searched between 27.02.2026 and 05.03.2026 in various habitats. The material was collected by beating the vegetation above a plastic container, by brush, stored in 96% ethanol and examined in the laboratory. Species identifications were based on a reference collection and following the original descriptions.

Results

A total of 17 species were identified

from which 14 were new records for Tanzania, some of them new to East Africa or the entire African continent.

Family Lepidopsocidae

Echmepteryx falco (Badonnel, 1949)

Material examined: 04.03.2026, lodge at Bagamoyo town, 6°26'02.6"S 38°54'21.4"E, 4 m a.s.l., yard of a lodge, various vegetation, 2 ♀.

Remark: The species was known from Antigua, Brazil, Cuba, French Guiana, Guyana, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Mexico, Panama, Puerto Rico, Suriname, Trinidad, and USA (Lienhard, 2016). New record for continental East Africa.

Echmepteryx madagascariensis (Kolbe, 1885)

Material examined: 28.02.2026, N of Bagamoyo town, 6°25'04.0"S 38°53'56.0"E, 9 m a.s.l., bushes with

Coccus nucifera palms, dry vegetation, 1 ♀; 04.03.2026, lodge at Bagamoyo town, 6°26'02.6"S 38°54'21.4"E, 4 m a.s.l., yard of a lodge, various vegetation, 1 ♀.

Remark: Pantropical species known from many of the warmer parts of the World, including Tanzania (Lienhard, 2016).

***Lepidopsocus marmoratus* (Banks, 1931)**

Material examined: 05.03.2026, N of Bagamoyo town, 6°24'30.2"S 38°53'46.4"E, 7 m a.s.l., coastal bushes near a river, from dry vegetation, 1 ♀.

Remark: The species was previously known only from oceanic islands: Hawaii, Christmas Island, Indonesia, Fiji, Micronesia, and Polynesia (Lienhard, 2016). Recently it was recorded and from French Guiana, South America (Georgiev, 2025). New record for the African continent.

***Thylacella fasciata* Badonnel, 1955**

Material examined: 28.02.2026, N of Bagamoyo town, 6°25'04.0"S 38°53'56.0"E, 9 m a.s.l., bushes with *Coccus nucifera* palms, dry vegetation, 1 ♀.

Remark: The species is known from Angola, Congo, Mozambique, Nigeria, Tanzania and Zimbabwe (Lienhard, 2016).

Family Trogiidae

***Cerobasis lienhardi* Georgiev 2022**

Material examined: 02.03.2026, Saadani Beach Camp, near Saadani village, 6°02'27.6"S 38°46'49.0"E, 3 m a.s.l., coastal bushes, from dry bushes, 14 ♀.

Remark: This species was recently described from coastal Kenya, about 200 km north along the coast line at Diani Beach (Georgiev, 2022a). It was known

only from one adult female and a few nymphs. New record for Tanzania.

Family Liposcelididae

Liposcelis albothoracica

Broadhead, 1955

Material examined: 27.02.2026, lodge at Bagamoyo town, 6°26'03.3"S 38°54'22.2"E, 4 m a.s.l., yard of a lodge, from dry vegetation, 1 ♀; 05.03.2026, N of Bagamoyo town, 6°24'30.2"S 38°53'46.4"E, 7 m a.s.l., coastal bushes near a river, from dry vegetation, 2 ♀.

Remark: The species was described from stored products in Britain with unknown origin (Broadhead, 1955). Later it was found in Cape Verde Islands, Mexico, Senegal, Zanzibar and Kenya (Lienhard, 2016, Georgiev, 2021, 2022b). New record for continental Tanzania.

***Liposcelis exigua* Badonnel, 1931**

Material examined: 05.03.2026, N of Bagamoyo town, 6°24'30.2"S 38°53'46.4"E, 7 m a.s.l., coastal bushes near a river, from dry vegetation, 1 ♀.

Remark: The species was known from Angola, Congo and Mozambique (Lienhard, 2016). New record for Tanzania.

Family Ectopsocidae

***Ectopsocus coccophilus* Ball, 1943**

Material examined: 02.03.2026, near Saadani village, 6°02'26.3"S 38°46'49.0"E, 3 m a.s.l., bushes, from dry vegetation, 1 ♀; 02.03.2026, Saadani Beach Camp, near Saadani village, 6°02'27.6"S 38°46'49.0"E, 3 m a.s.l., coastal bushes, from dry bushes, 2 ♂; 04.03.2026, N of Bagamoyo town, 6°24'34.9"S 38°53'51.7"E, 8 m a.s.l., bushes, from dry vegetation, 1 ♂; 04.03.2026, lodge at Bagamoyo town, 6°26'02.6"S 38°54'21.4"E, 4 m a.s.l., yard of a lodge, from various vegetation, 2 ♀; 05.03.2026, Bagamoyo town,

6°25'52.5"S 38°54'00.1"E, 11 m a.s.l., agricultural lands with trees and bushes, from dry vegetation, 2 ♀, 1 ♂.

Remark: The species was described from Congo (Ball, 1943), and later recorded in Indonesia (Thornton *et al.*, 1988, Vaughan *et al.*, 1989). Later it was found on Unguja Island, Zanzibar (Georgiev, 2021) and Kenya (Georgiev, 2022b).

***Ectopsocus pearmani* Ball, 1943**

Material examined: 04.03.2026, N of Bagamoyo town, 6°24'34.9"S 38°53'51.7"E, 8 m a.s.l., bushes, from dry vegetation, 4 ♀.

Remark: The species was known from Congo, Madagascar and Nigeria (Lienhard, 2016). New record for continental East Africa.

***Ectopsocus pilosus* Badonnel, 1967**

Material examined: 04.03.2026, N of Bagamoyo town, 6°24'34.9"S 38°53'51.7"E, 8 m a.s.l., bushes, from dry vegetation, 1 ♀; 04.03.2026, lodge at Bagamoyo town, 6°26'02.6"S 38°54'21.4"E, 4 m a.s.l., yard of a lodge, from various vegetation, 5 ♀; 05.03.2026, Bagamoyo town, 6°25'52.5"S 38°54'00.1"E, 11 m a.s.l., agricultural lands with trees and bushes, from dry vegetation, 4 ♀, 1 ♂.

Remark: The species was known from Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Madagascar, Malaysia, and Mascarene Islands (Lienhard, 2016). Recently it was recorded from Kenya (Georgiev, 2022b). New record for Tanzania.

***Ectopsocus titschacki* Jentsch, 1939**

Material examined: 28.02.2026, N of Bagamoyo town, 6°25'04.0"S 38°53'56.0"E, 9 m a.s.l., bushes with *Coccotheca nucifera* palms, dry vegetation, 3 ♀, 1 ♂; 05.03.2026, Bagamoyo town,

6°25'52.5"S 38°54'00.1"E, 11 m a.s.l., agricultural lands with trees and bushes, from dry vegetation, 1 ♀, 1 ♂.

Remark: Widely distributed pantropical species (Lienhard, 2016). New record for Tanzania.

***Ectopsocus spathulata* (Ball, 1943)**

Material examined: 05.03.2026, N of Bagamoyo town, 6°24'30.2"S 38°53'46.4"E, 7 m a.s.l., coastal bushes near a river, from dry vegetation, 1 ♀.

Remark: The species was known from Congo (Ball, 1943) and Zanzibar (Georgiev, 2021). New record for continental East Africa.

Family Peripsocidae

***Peripsocus ghesquieri* Badonnel, 1948**

Material examined: 28.02.2026, N of Bagamoyo town, 6°25'04.0"S 38°53'56.0"E, 9 m a.s.l., bushes with *Coccotheca nucifera* palms, dry vegetation, 1 ♀; 05.03.2026, N of Bagamoyo town, 6°24'30.2"S 38°53'46.4"E, 7 m a.s.l., coastal bushes near a river, from dry vegetation, 1 ♀.

Remark: The species was known from Congo, Kenya and Nigeria (Lienhard, 2016). New record for Tanzania.

Family Archipsocidae

***Archipsocopsis fernandi* (Pearman, 1934)**

Material examined: 05.03.2026, N of Bagamoyo town, 6°24'30.2"S 38°53'46.4"E, 7 m a.s.l., coastal bushes near a river, from dry vegetation, 1 ♀.

Remark: The species was previously known from Australia, Bangladesh, Madagascar and Sri Lanka (Lienhard, 2016), and recently reported from coastal Kenya (Georgiev, 2022b). New record for Tanzania.

Family Pseudocaeciliidae

***Mepleres maculatus* (Broadhead & Richards, 1982)**

Material examined: 05.03.2026, N of Bagamoyo town, 6°24'30.2"S 38°53'46.4"E, 7 m a.s.l., coastal bushes near a river, from dry vegetation, 1 ♂.

Remark: The species was known only from Kenya (Broadhead & Richards, 1982). The record from Zanzibar (Georgiev 2021) referred to *M. gurusamyi* Georgiev 2022 (Georgiev 2022a). New record for Tanzania.

***Pseudocaecilius africanus* Badonnel, 1931**

Material examined: 05.03.2026, N of Bagamoyo town, 6°24'30.2"S 38°53'46.4"E, 7 m a.s.l., coastal bushes near a river, from dry vegetation, 1 ♀.

Remark: The species was known from Angola, Congo, Madagascar, Mozambique, and South Africa (Lienhard, 2016). New record for Tanzania.

Family Elipsocidae

***Nepiomorpha annulata* Badonnel, 1955**

Material examined: 02.03.2026, Saadani Beach Camp, near Saadani village, 6°02'27.6"S 38°46'49.0"E, 3 m a.s.l., coastal bushes, from dry bushes, 2 ♀.

Remark: The species was known from Angola (Badonnel, 1955) and Kenya (Georgiev, 2022b). New record for Tanzania.

References

Badonnel A. 1955. Psocopteres de l'Angola. *Publicacoes culturais da Companhia de Diamantes de Angola*, 26: 1-267.

Ball A. 1943. Contribution a l'étude des Psocoptères, III. - *Ectopsocus* du Congo belge, avec une remarque sur le rapport I. *Bulletin du Musée royal*

d'Histoire naturelle de Belgique, 19(38): 1-28.

Broadhead E. 1955. Two new psocid species from stored products in Britain. *Proceedings of the Royal Entomological Society of London*, (B) 24(1/2): 7-12.

Broadhead E., Richards A. 1982. The Psocoptera of East Africa - a taxonomic and ecological survey. *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*, 17: 137-216.

Georgiev D. 2021. On the fauna of Psocoptera of Unguja (Zanzibar) Island (Tanzania, East Africa). *Historia naturalis bulgarica*, 42: 35-42.

Georgiev D. 2022a. New species of Psocoptera (Insecta) from East Africa. *Historia naturalis bulgarica*, 44(7): 51-62.

Georgiev D. 2022b. New records of Psocoptera from East Sub-Saharan Africa. *ZooNotes, Supplement 12*: 1-36.

Georgiev D. 2025. Updating the check list: new records of Psocodea (Insecta) from French Guiana. *Historia naturalis bulgarica*, 47(8): 287-292.

Lienhard C. 2016. Country checklists of the Psocoptera species of the world, extracted from Lienhard & Smithers, 2002: "Psocoptera (Insecta) – world catalogue and bibliography". *Psocid News, Special Issue I*: 1-123.

Thornton L., New T., Vaughan P. 1988. The colonization of the Krakatau Islands by Psocoptera (Insecta). *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London. B*, 322: 427-443.

Vaughan P., Thornton I., New T. 1989. The Psocoptera of the Krakatau Islands, Indonesia. *Treubia*, 30 (1): 1-93.

Received: 08.04.2026

Accepted: 07.06.2026

Published: 21.06.2026