A PERSIMMON GALL MITE, _ERIOPHYES THEOSPYRI_ (K.)

_(ACARINA: ERIOPHYIDAE)_

H. A. DENMARK

**SYNONYM:** _ACERIA THEOSPYRI_ KEIFER, 1960:7.

**INTRODUCTION:** A PERSIMMON GALL MITE, _ERIOPHYES THEOSPYRI_ (K.) was originally described by Keifer in 1960 from the leaves of persimmon collected from Greenbelt, Maryland. Since that time it has been collected numerous times in Florida and South Georgia. It will probably be found to occur in the coastal states from Florida to Maryland. Young leaves are attacked, with galls evident on the upper surface and the opening on the lower surface (Fig. 1).

**HOST:** It appears to be host specific to persimmon, _Diospyros virginiana_ L.

**DESCRIPTION:** The female is about 160μ long, 45-50μ thick, wormlike, and light yellowish white. Shield design obscure, median line slightly indicated posteriorly (Fig. 2). Dorsal tubercles 26μ apart; dorsal setae 35μ long, diverging posteriorly. Microtubercles elongate-elliptical, flattened, close-set, and touching rear ring margin (Fig. 3). Female genitalia 10μ long, 18μ wide, coverflap with 6 weak, longitudinal ribs, somewhat diagonally converging from each side (Fig. 4). The feather claws are 4-rayed (Fig. 5).

**LITERATURE CITED:**


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