**Supplemental File S3.** Maximum length and width of the shields (in micrometers) of *Rhinonyssus sphenisci* sensu lato recovered from African penguins (*Spheniscus demersus*).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Host** | **Mite** | **Dorsal shield** |  | **Sternal shield** |  | **Genital shield** |
| **Length** | **Width** |  | **Length** | **Width** |  | **Length** | **Width** |
| A | 1 | 532 | 457 |  | 148 | 157 |  | 247 | 165 |
|  | 2 | 641 | 511 |  | 113 | 154 |  | 250 | 201 |
|  | 3 | 599 | 500 |  | 147 | 161 |  | 250 | 216 |
|  | 4 | 672 | 522 |  | 134 | 155 |  | 252 | 191 |
|  | 5 | 612 | 510 |  | 150 | 168 |  | 245 | 198 |
|  | 6 | 594 | 532 |  | 142 | 153 |  | 257 | 171 |
| B | 1 | 582 | 473 |  | 126 | 155 |  | 260 | 191 |
|  | 2 | 594 | 504 |  | 132 | 154 |  | 262 | 188 |
|  | 3 | 603 | 503 |  | 129 | 159 |  | 262 | 202 |
| C | 1 | 538 | 412 |  | 139 | 126 |  | 228 | 180 |
|  | 2 | 577 | 463 |  | 135 | 115 |  | 248 | 237 |
| D | 1 | 570 | 504 |  | 129 | 142 |  | 253 | 193 |
|  | 2 | 607 | 484 |  | 129 | 126 |  | 258 | 167 |
|  | 3 | 623 | 511 |  | 124 | 145 |  | 260 | 208 |

Notes: Host A was a juvenile admitted for rehabilitation due to an injury on 16/04/17 from Silwerstroomstrand. Host B was a juvenile admitted for rehabilitation due to an injury on 24/05/17 from Boulders Beach. Host C was an adult deceased due to predation by a terrestrial mammal, found on 09/06/17 at Stony Point. Host D was an adult deceased due to septicemia, found on 09/06/17 at Stony Point.