

PTEROMALIDAE (HYMENOPTERA: CHALCIDOIDEA) NEW TO ROMANIA (I)

BY

MIRCEA-DAN MITROIU¹

Key words: Hymenoptera, Chalcidoidea, Pteromalidae, genera and species new to Romania

The genera *Arthrolytus* Thomson, 1878 and *Eulonchetron* Graham, 1966, and the species *Arthrolytus discoideus* (Nees, 1834), *Eulonchetron torymoides* (Thomson, 1878), *Glyphognathus laevigatus* (Delucchi, 1953), *Sphegigaster brevicornis* (Walker, 1833), *Seladerma tarsale* (Walker, 1833), *Systasis longula* Bouček, 1956, *Coelopisthia areolata* Askew, 1980 and *Meraporus rambouseki* Bouček, 1961 are recorded for the first time in Romania. For four species, Romania is the eastern limit of their distribution.

Introduction

Two genera and eight species of pteromalids found for the first time in Romania are presented in this note. They belong to the subfamilies Miscogasterinae and Pteromalinae. For each species information on the collected material, the geographical distribution, as well as their hosts, is given. The species in each subfamily are presented in alphabetical order.

Material and Methods

All the individuals except those of *Coelopisthia areolata* Askew and *Eulonchetron torymoides* (Thomson), which were reared in laboratory in 1998 and 2003, were collected using a sweeping net, during the summers of 1998 and 2001.

Results

Subfamily Miscogasterinae

Genus *Glyphognathus* Graham, 1956

Glyphognathus laevigatus (Delucchi, 1953)

Identified material: 1 ♀, Rodnei Mountains, 29. VIII. 2001, on grasses.

Geographical distribution: Czech Republic, Hungary, Montenegro, Sweden, United Kingdom /10/. Romania is so far the eastern limit of its distribution.

Biology: primary parasitoid of Agromyzidae (Diptera) /10/.

¹ „Al.I. Cuza” University of Iași

Note: Some characters of this specimen are intermediate between *G. laevigatus* (Delucchi) and *G. laevis* (Delucchi). Antenna with combined length of pedicellus and flagellum about 1.30 times the breadth of head. Sixth funicular segment subquadrate, the others distinctly longer than broad. Head in dorsal view about 2 times as broad as long. Gastral petiole about 1.5 times as long as broad. Body green with bronze reflects dorsally and laterally. Graham /9/ also states that “*G. laevigatus* is very close to *laevis*” (p. 213).

Genus *Seladerma* Walker, 1834

***Seladerma tarsale* (Walker, 1833)**

Identified material: 1♀, Văratec (Neamț county), 8. VII. 1998, on grasses near coniferous forest.

Geographical distribution: Czech Republic, Greenland, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom /10/. Graham /9/ states that “In British Isles it is the commonest species of the genus and may be found almost everywhere, even in large cities (in parks and other suitable places).” (p. 202). Romania is so far the eastern limit of its distribution.

Biology: primary parasitoid of Agromyzidae (Diptera) /9, 10/.

Genus *Sphegigaster* Spinola, 1811

***Sphegigaster brevicornis* (Walker, 1833)**

Identified material: 1♂, Valea lui David Natural Reserve (Iași county), 8. V. 1999, on steppe vegetation.

Geographical distribution: Ireland, Italy, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom /10/.

Biology: primary parasitoid of Agromyzidae (Diptera) /10/.

Genus *Systasis* Walker, 1834

***Systasis longula* Bouček, 1956**

Identified material: 1♂, Văratec (Neamț county), 18. VII. 1998, on grasses near mountain stream.

Geographical distribution: China, former Czechoslovakia /10/.

Biology: unknown.

Subfamily Pteromalinae

Genus *Arthrolytus* Thomson, 1878 – new genus to Romania

There are nine Palearctic species of *Arthrolytus* known so far /10/. Four species are parasitoids of Cecidomyiidae (Diptera), other four are associated with galls of Cynipidae (Hymenoptera) on *Quercus* and one species was reared from acorns attacked by Curculionidae (Coleoptera) /6, 8/.

***Arthrolytus discoideus* (Nees, 1834)**

Identified material: 1 ♀, Popricani (Iași county), 8. VI. 2001, on vegetation near apple orchard.

Geographical distribution: Caucasus, Czech Republic, Germany, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom /10/.

Biology: unknown. Flight period: VIII-IX /9/, but also earlier (VI) considering the present record.

Genus *Coelopisthia* Förster, 1856

***Coelopisthia areolata* Askew, 1980**

Identified material: 52 ♀♀ and 1 ♂ reared together from an unidentified lepidopteran pupa collected under a fallen tree trunk in a deciduous forest, Bârnova (Iași county), 23. VI. 1998. The adults emerged through a single round lateral hole at the anterior end of the pupa.

Geographical distribution: Germany, United Kingdom /10/. Romania is so far the eastern limit of its distribution.

Biology: gregarious endoparasitoid in lepidopteran pupae (unknown species).

Note: The fact that a female managed to find a very well hidden host demonstrates the great host location ability of this species.

Genus *Eulonchetron* Graham, 1966 – new genus to Romania

Two species of *Eulonchetron* are known: *E. torymoides* (Thomson) in Europe and North America, and *E. sinense* Huang & Liu in China. A very long and narrow gaster characterizes the adults of these species.

***Eulonchetron torymoides* (Thomson, 1878)**

Identified material: 6 ♀♀ and 7 ♂♂ reared from galls of *Pontania viminalis* (L.) (Hymenoptera, Tenthredinidae) on leaves of *Salix* sp., Asău (Bacău county), 6. VIII. 2003.

Geographical distribution: Canada, Croatia, former Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Germany, Sweden, United Kingdom /10/. Romania is so far the eastern limit of its distribution.

Biology: primary parasitoid of gall-making Tenthredinidae (Hymenoptera) /1, 9, 10/.

Genus *Meraporus* Walker, 1834

***Meraporus rambouseki* Bouček, 1961**

Identified material: 1 ♀, wings rudimentary, Rodnei mountains, 17. VIII. 2001, on grasses at about 1900 m altitude.

Geographical distribution: Bulgaria (Stara Planina mountains /4/), former Czechoslovakia /10/.

Biology: unknown.

Acknowledgements: I thank Prof. Dr. Ionel Andriescu, “Al. I. Cuza” University, for kindly revising the manuscript.

Bibliography

1. Askew, R. R., 1962 – Proc. Roy. Ent. Soc. Lond., 31 (1-2): 1-3;
2. Askew, R. R., 1980 – Syst. Ent., 5: 1-6;
3. Boucek, Z., 1955 – Acta Ent. Mus. Nat. Pragae, XXX (462): 305-330;
4. Boucek, Z., 1961 – Acta Ent. Mus. Nat. Pragae, XXXIV (579): 55-95;
5. Boucek, Z., 1965 – Acta Faun. Ent. Mus. Nat. Pragae, 11: 5-38;
6. Boucek, Z., 1967 – Acta Ent. Mus. Nat. Pragae, 37: 635-647;
7. Bouček, Z., 1968 – Acta Ent. Mus. Nat. Pragae, 12 (132): 231-260;
8. Bouček, Z. & Rasplus, J. Y., 1991 – Illustrated key to West-Palearctic Genera of Pteromalidae (Hymenoptera: Chalcidoidea), INRA, Paris, pp. 143;
9. Graham, M. W. R. de V., 1969 – Bull. Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.) Ent., Suppl. 16: 1-908;
10. Noyes, J. S., 2003 – Universal Chalcidoidea Database. World Wide Web electronic publication, <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/entomology/chalcidoids/index.html> [accessed 25-NOV-2003].