

# A new apterous xoridine species from China and notes on the status of *Aderaeon* Townes (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae)

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*Odontocolon apterus* sp. n., the first wingless ichneumonid of the subfamily Xoridinae is described from southern China. *Aderaeon* is considered a valid genus on the basis of the unusual structure of inner skeleton of ovipositor.

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## *Odontocolon apterus* sp. n.

*Holotype*. ♀, China, West. Sichuan, nr Kangding, lake Sirenkhai (Mugetsu), 3800', 23-24.VII.1996 (A. Miroshnikov, A. Zamotajlov), Zoological Institute, St.Petersburg.

*Description*. Female. Length of body 6.6 mm; ovipositor sheath 6.4 mm. Body considerably depressed, but moderately elongate. Flagellum 4.4 mm, with 29 segments; its first segment 1.4 times as long as second; first and second flagellar segments 1.15 times as long as maximal diameter of eye. Head swollen, 1.12 times as wide across temples as across eyes. Punctures on temple very small, separated by about 3-5 their diameters; temple and vertex almost smooth, slightly granulated (granulation more apparent near mandible). Thorax about 3.1 times as long as high. Pronotum with dense coarse punctures almost completely obscured by small but strong irregular wrinkling. Mesoscutum weakly scabrous on central lobe, partly smooth on lateral lobes, without obvious punctures. Mesopleuron and metapleuron mat, their surface with small irregular wrinkles; basal part of metapleuron partly longitudinally striate. Mesepimeron with rather dense hairs over its entire surface. Propodeum as high as thorax, with long horizontal part and short hind vertical part (ratio 5 : 1.5); propodeum mat, with scabrous-granulate sculpture, without any carinae (only traces of pleural carinae are visible and hind

vertical surface of propodeum laterally with rather weak vertical crescent carinae restricting apical part of apical area). Both pairs of wings absent, only small squamae of about same size as tegulae present beyond the tegulae; hind edge of fore squamae with dense hairs, hind squamae bare. Middle tibia with a deep sharp oblique groove on posteroventral side. Tibiae and tarsi without long erect hairs. Distal side of tooth on hind femur ending abruptly, not continued onto underside of femur as a ridge; tooth on hind femur half as high as its basal width and 0.17 times as high as width of femur. Hind femur about 2.4 times as long as high. Second segment of middle tarsus 1.3 times as long as wide; fifth segment of hind tarsus about 1.2 times as long as second. First abdominal segment about 1.8 times as long as its maximal width; covered by scabrous-granulate sculpture. Second tergite granulated, other tergites smooth with rather dense pubescence. Ovipositor sheath about as long as body.

Blackish with red-brownish flagellum, face, clypeus, part of temple close to mandible, front margin of pronotum, fore coxae, trochantelli of hind legs, and tarsi of fore and middle legs.

## On the taxonomic status of *Aderaeon* Townes, 1949

This taxon was described as subgenus of *Errormenus* based on some peculiarities of ter-

minal segments of the abdomen. But now it is sometimes considered a junior synonym of this genus (Townes & al., 1992). However, the inner structure of the ovipositor of *Aderaeon* is very unusual and has no analogue in other Hymenoptera (Kasparyan, 1971): rami of first and second valvae strongly elongate, enlarged, close to each other and in second valva fused; thus the rami form a firm arch which concentrates a big cluster of eggs inside abdomen. Functionally this unusual construction is a kind of uterus; ovoviviparity in tryphonine genera is rather usual and concentration of a big cluster of eggs may be considered as adaptation to incubation of eggs. Such an extraordinary biological peculiarity and important autapomorphy (unique for Ichneumonidae and all Hymenoptera!) justifies recognition of *Aderaeon* as separate genus. Thus, I consider *Aderaeon* as a good genus with five species:

west-palaearctic *A. hamatus* Kasparyan, 1971, holarctic *A. kozlovi* Kasparyan, 1973, *A. townesi* Kasparyan, 1993 from Taiwan, and two nearctic species – *A. bedardi* Provancher, 1879 and *A. nigellus* Townes & Gupta, 1992, comb. n. (*Errormenus*). The outer parts of ovipositor of *Aderaeon* also allow it to be differentiated easily from *Errormenus*.

## References

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