

A new Palaearctic species of the genus *Syndipnus* Förster (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae: Ctenopelmatinae)

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Kasparyan, D.R. 2003. A new Palaearctic species of the genus *Syndipnus* Förster (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae: Ctenopelmatinae). *Zoosystematica Rossica*, **12**(1): 123-124.

A new species of ichneumon-flies, *Syndipnus saotis* sp. n. of the tribe Euryproctini, is described from the Subarctic zone of Europe and Siberia.

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Syndipnus saotis sp. n. (Figs 1-3)

Holotype. ♀, **Russia**, *Yakutia*, Tiksi, tundra near observatory, 31.VII.1990 (leg. Kasparyan).

Paratypes. **Russia**: 4 ♀, 1 ♂, with same label as in holotype; 1 ♀, *Yakutia*, Tit-Ary, delta of Lena River, tundra, 26.VII.1990 (leg. Kasparyan); 1 ♀, "Gavrilova" [= Gavrilovo, mouth of Voron'ya River, *Murmansk Prov.*], "413", "Hellén".

All specimens but the last one are deposited at the Zoological Institute, St.Petersburg; the last-mentioned specimen is kept at the Zoological Museum, Helsinki.

Description. Female. Fore wing 3.7-5.0 mm (in holotype, about 4 mm). Antenna with 19-21 flagellar segments; two basal flagellar segments combined about 1.4 times as long as maximum diameter of eye. Head weakly narrowed behind the eyes, 1.1 times as wide as mesoscutum between tegulae. Malar space about 0.45 times as long as basal width of mandible. Face granulate, laterally near antennal sockets almost smooth, its central part (epistoma) with weak longitudinal rugae. Frons granulate, smoother just above antennal sockets. Temples almost smooth with granulation on cheeks.

Pronotum with irregular rugosity, moderately shiny. Mesothorax more or less smooth with scarce fine punctures. Metapleurum and propodeum separated by a superficial depression, both covered with scabrous sculpture. Propodeum usually with distinct apical area, but sometimes only hind part of this area is bordered laterally by carinae. Venation of fore wing, shape and coloration of hind leg and abdomen as in Figs 1-3. Nervellus in hind wing intercepted at lower 0.28. Tarsal claws pectinated, with 2-3 teeth.

First abdominal tergite with weak dorsomedial carinae at basal 0.3; anterior part of this tergite (0.3-0.8 of its length) with superficial rugosity;

posterior part of tergite 1 (0.7-0.2 of its length) and tergites 2-8 polished, with sparse short hairs. Tergites 2 and 3 combined about 2.5 times as long as basal width of tergite 2. Ovipositor sheath about as long as wide (Fig. 3) and about 1.2 times as wide as hind femur.

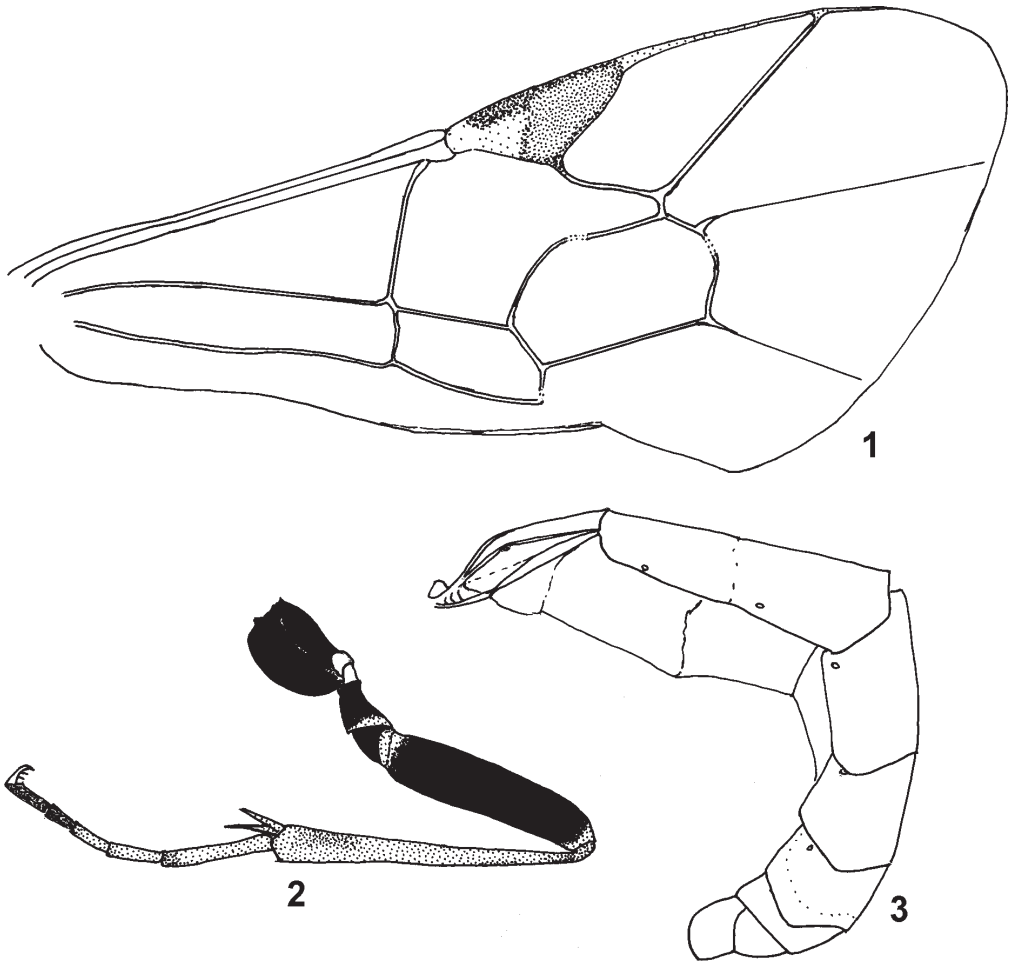
Coloration. Body black. Clypeus yellowish in lower 0.6; mandible and palpi blackish brown. Tegulae of fore wing and sometimes hind corners of pronotum light yellow. Femora blackish brown, usually rufous at extreme apex; tibiae and tarsi brownish rufous; hind tibia usually predominantly rufous with brownish marks (Fig. 2). Abdomen (Fig. 3) predominantly black with ovipositor sheath, segments 7 and 8, and, usually, apex of segment 6 ochraceous (brownish red); sometimes sternites and epipleurae of segments 4-6 light brownish.

Male. Fore wing 3.1 mm; flagellum 19-segmented. The male similar to female in coloration and sculpture of head and thorax; differs in having abdomen matt and depressed, abdominal segments shorter, tibiae and tarsi blackish brown.

Diagnosis. *Syndipnus saotis* sp. n. may easily be distinguished from all other species of the genus by the following characters: strongly compressed abdomen distal to the 3rd segment, wide subcircular ovipositor sheath (Fig. 3) and characteristic coloration (body black with tibiae and tarsi brownish rufous, abdominal segments 7, 8 and ovipositor sheath ochraceous).

Note. The new species belongs to the tribe Euryproctini of the subfamily Ctenopelmatinae. In many respects it is convergently similar to the ctenopelmatine genus *Saotis* (the tribe Mesoleiini), and possibly, like the species of this genus, is also a parasite of gall-making tenthredinid sawflies of the genus *Phyllocolpa*.

Received 12 August 2003



Figs 1-3. *Syndipnus saotis* sp. n., female. 1, fore wing; 2, hind leg; 3, abdomen.