Chremyloides tobiasi sp. n. from New Caledonia (Hymenoptera: Braconidae, Pambolinae, Chremylini)

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Abstract. Description of the new species *Chremyloides tobiasi* sp. n. from New Caledonia is provided. This new species is similar to Australian *Ch. naumanni* Achterberg but differs in the sculpture of head and metasoma, the short first flagellomere, the shape of the first discal cell, and the colour of metasoma.

Key words. Hymenoptera, Braconidae, Chremyloides, new species, New Caledonia.

Резюме. Описывается новый вид *Chremyloides tobiasi* sp. n. из Новой Каледонии. Новый вид близок к австралийскому *Ch. naumanni* Achterberg, отличается скульптурой головы и метасомы, коротким первым члеником жгутика, формой первой дискальной ячейки и цветом метасомы.

Ключевые слова. Hymenoptera, Braconidae, Chremyloides, новый вид, Новая Каледония.

Introduction

The Hungarian naturalist and zoologist, the late Dr. J. Balogh (1913–2000), has been visiting New Caledonia in 1969 where he collected, among others, insects too. In this entomological material I found in 1978 a pamboline specimen which woke my attention by its unusual wing venation and shape of body. After a profound examination I could establish that the specimen supposedly represents a new genus as well as new species too. Accordingly I attached my provisional name label on it and I put aside the specimen.

In November 2000 Dr. S. Belokobylskij (St. Petersburg) has been staying on a scholarship in the Hungarian Natural History Museum. He examined this pamboline specimen in question and labelled it adding the name "*Chremyloides* sp. det. Belokobylskij 2000". This taxonomic information promoted my effort to establish its true identity. The betylobraconine revision by Achterberg (1995) was of essential assistance in that the *Chremyloides* specimen proved to be the fourth new species for this genus. Subsequently the description and its nearest ally are presented. The genus *Chremyloides* was erected by Achterberg (1995) and he assigned three species to this genus: *Ch. abnormis* (Belokobylskij, 1988), *Ch. cardaleae* Achterberg, 1995 and *Ch. naumanni* Achterberg, 1995; all three species are distributed in Australia.

The following abbreviations applied in the description: OOL — the shortest distance between a hind ocellus and eye; POL — the shortest distance between hind two ocelli; for wing venation (after: Achterberg, 1993): *m-cu* — recurrent vein (or transverse medio-cubital vein); r — first section of the marginal (or radial) vein; 2-SR — first transverse cubital vein; 3-SR — second section of the marginal (or radial) vein; SRI — third section of the marginal (or radial) vein; CUIa — first section of the subdiscoidal (or parallel) vein.

Chremyloides tobiasi Papp, sp. n. (Figs 1-6).

Diagnosis. The new species is nearest (with the help of Achterberg's key, 1995: 104–105) to *Ch. naumanni* Achterberg (Australia: Victoria) considering their common feature as carina present between antennal sockets, crenulate precoxal sulcus, r shorter than width of pterostigma, straight *CU1a* and dark coloured head and mesosoma. These two species are differentiated by the features as follows (key couplet for *Ch. naumanni* after Achterberg l.c.):

Description. F e m a l e. Body length 1.5 mm. Antenna short, as long as head and mesosoma except propodeum combined, with 10 antennomeres. Flagellomeres short and thickening distally. First flagellomere 1.5 times as long as broad apically and 1.2 times as long as second flagellomere; second flagellomere 1.25 times as long as broad apically (Fig. 1); penultimate flagellomere 1.6 times as long as broad. Head in dorsal view (Fig. 2) subcubic, 1.6 times as broad as long, strongly rounded behind eyes; eye twice as long as temple; occiput just excavated. Ocelli small, round, forming rather pointed triangle, OOL 3.0 times POL. Between antennal sockets weak longitudinal carina present. Basal width of mandible 1.4 times length of malar space. Oral opening twice as wide as the shortest distance between opening and eye. Frons polished, occiput subgranulate, face medio-laterally rugo-rugulose.

Mesosoma in lateral view flattened, twice as long as high. Precoxal suture fairly deep, narrow, crenulate, extending to fore half of mesopleuron and reaching its fore margin. Declivous anterior part of mesoscutum subgranulate, otherwise together with scutellum and mesopleuron polished. Fovea of mesoscutum linearform, not deep. Propodeum rugose and with faint areolation, antero-medially with smooth and shiny field (Fig. 3). Middle femur 3.0 times as long as broad medially.

Fore wing length 1.2 mm, somewhat shorter than body. Pterostigma (Fig. 4) three-sided, 2.8 times as long as wide, issuing *r* distally from its middle; *r* 0.6 times width of pterostigma; 3-SR+SR1 reaching tip of wing; *CU1a* almost straight; *m-cu* postfurcal and a bit shorter than 2-SR; first discal cell rhomboid form, i.e. not narrowing distally (Fig. 4).

First tergite (Fig. 5) rather longitudinally granulate, distinctly broadening posteriorly, its length 0.75 times hind width. Second tergite granulate slightly finer than that of first tergite; third tergite anteromedially granulo-subgranulate; second suture indistinct. Following tergites polished. Ovipositor sheath in lateral view as long as middle tibia and first and second tarsomeres combined (Fig. 6).

Colour. Scape and pedicel yellowish brown, first flagellomere light brown, rest of flagellum brown. Head and mesosoma dark brown, metasoma brown. Palpi brownish yellow; mandible and labrum (or oral opening) light brown. Tegula light brownish. Legs brownish yellow. Wings faintly brownish fumous; pterostigma brown, venation yellowish brownish.

Male unknown.

Material. Holotype: \mathcal{Q} , "New Caledonia, Ponérihuen, 11 October 1969, leg. J. Balogh", "Hym. Typ. No. 10660". Holotype is deposited in the Department of Zoology, Hungarian Natural History Museum (Budapest).

Holotype is in good condition: glued on a pointed card by its right metapleuron and first sternites; left flagellum damaged (with 9 flagellomeres), left hind leg (except coxa) missing, right hind femur invisible owing to the mounting.

Distribution. New Caledonia.

Etymology. The new species is dedicated to Dr. V.I. Tobias, the well-known braconid specialist and highly meritorious in the exploration of the Braconidae fauna of Australia celebrating his 75th birthday.



Figs 1–6. *Chremyloides tobiasi* sp. n. \bigcirc . 1 — first-sixth antennomeres; 2 — head in dorsal view; 3 — propodeum; 4 — distal part of right fore wing; 5 — first-third tergites; 6 — apical part of metasoma.

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