

Description of the male of *Gladicauda ensifer*

Loiácono, 1988

(Hymenoptera, Diapriidae)

Peter Neerup Buhl

Buhl, P. N.: Description of the male of *Gladicauda ensifer* Loiácono, 1988 (Hymenoptera, Diapriidae).

Ent. Meddr. 64: 319-20. Copenhagen, Denmark 1996. ISSN 0013-8851.

The hitherto unknown male of *Gladicauda ensifer* Loiácono from Argentina is described, figured and compared with the female.

P.N. Buhl, Ålandsgade 24, 1. MF, DK-2300 Copenhagen S.

The genus *Gladicauda* was first described by Early (1980) from New Zealand, based on one new species, *G. aucklandica*. The genus is distinct on account of the greatly lengthened apical sternite of the female. Loiácono (1988) described 3 further species from South America (Argentina and Chile): *G. phasgonurus*, *G. ensifer*, and *G. minor*. The *Gladicauda* males seem to be much more rare than the females. Loiácono (1988) described the male for *G. phasgonurus* only. The description of *G. ensifer* was based on 28 ♀. In the collection of the Zoological Museum in Copenhagen a single male specimen undoubtedly belonging to this distinct species was present, described below. It shares the characteristic features of the female, viz. wing venation, sculpture of scutellum, large size, and body colour. It has, however, a much different shape of antennae and of metasoma – e.g. flagellum is much more slender, and petiole is 3.7 times as long as wide in contrast to only 2 times in female. As the description of *ensifer* in Loiácono (1988) is short and in Spanish, a rather lengthy description of the male is given below.

Gladicauda ensifer Loiácono, 1988 ♂

(Figs 1-3)

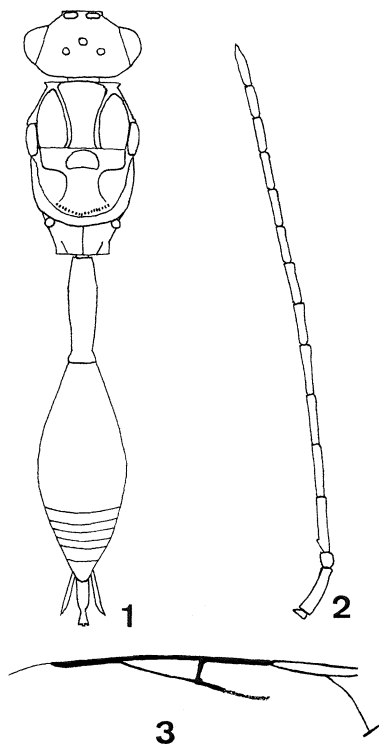
Material examined: 1 ♂ labeled 'Puerto Blest, Nahuel Huapi, Argentina, 8.2.1966,

Axel M. Hemmingsen', 'Undescribed gen. of Belytinae, Det. L. Masner, 1981', '*Gladicauda ensifer* ♂, Peter Buhl det. 1996', and 'Zool. Museum, DK Copenhagen'. In ZMUC.

Description. Body length 4.3 mm. Colour black; sides of pronotum, mesoscutum medially, scutellum, postscutellum and tegulae chestnut brown; scape, pedicel, mandibles, all coxae and hind legs yellowish brown (fore and middle legs missing).

Head from above (Fig. 1) 1.65 x as wide as long, hardly wider than thorax, almost smooth, rather densely and evenly hairy. Head from front slightly wider than high (31:26), frons finely punctured, facial furrows continued as vaguely foveate lines to rugosity beneath antennal insertions, malar space more than half the height of an eye (4:7), OOL:POL:LOL = 10:13:6. Antenna (Fig. 2) with dense pubescence less than half as long as the width of flagellar segments, scape with longer and rather dense hairs; scape short and thick, hardly as long as flagellar segment I which is more than 5 x as long as wide, the weak emargination of this segment covering less than one third; flagellar segments becoming slightly shorter towards apex, A13 hardly 3.5 x as long as wide.

Thorax (Fig.1) slightly higher than wide (17:15). Pronotum with prominent dentiform shoulders, smooth and bare laterally.



Figs 1-3. *Gladicauda ensifer* Loíacono, 1988 ♂. 1, body in dorsal view; 2, antenna; 3, details of wing venation.

Mesoscutum almost smooth, with fine punctures and rather densely and evenly hairy. Mesopleurae rather smooth and hairy. Scutellar fovea not deep, slightly reniform; scutellum almost smooth and bare medially, with long hairs laterally and behind, and with a transverse row of small foveae along hind margin; postscutellum with a feeble triangular tooth. Metapleurae and sides of propodeum with pilosity; dorsal areas of propodeum rather hairy.

Fore wing hardly shorter than whole body (4.2 mm), 1.6 x as long as wide, with faint brownish tint; marginalis slightly shorter than radial cell (9:10) and as long as postmarginalis, cubitalis almost straight (Fig. 3).

Gaster (Fig. 1) 0.75 x as high as wide. Petiole 3.7 x as long as its greatest width, smooth and with traces of longitudinal keels in anterior third, rest with coarse, transverse uneven sculpture, whole segment with long and rather dense hairs, especially laterally. T2 at base with a medial furrow about as long as width of petiole and with some very short lateral furrows, rest of tergite as well as the following tergites almost smooth, but whole gaster except anteriorly on T2 and medially covered rather densely with long hairs.

Remarks. Specimen formerly mounted on micropin, now glued on card triangle, all fore and middle legs, and wings on right side missing; head glued separately, A6-A14 of left antenna missing.

Acknowledgements

I thank Dr. Marta S. Loíacono (Museo de La Plata) for sending me reprints.

References

- Early, J.W., 1980. The Diapriidae (Hymenoptera) of the southern islands of New Zealand. – *Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand* 10: 153-171.
- Loíacono, M., 1988. Estudio preliminar del genero *Gladicauda* Early en la republica Argentina y Chile (Hymenoptera – Diapriidae). – *Revista de la asociacion de ciencias naturales del litoral* 19: 39-47.