

Oxyserphus Masner, 1961 represented in West Palaearctis by a new species (Hymenoptera, Proctotrupidae)

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Buhl, P.N.: *Oxyserphus* Masner, 1961 represented in West Palaearctis by a new species (Hymenoptera, Proctotrupidae).

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The genus *Oxyserphus* Masner, 1961 has hitherto only been recorded from the Australian and Oriental regions. A new species, here described as *O. europaeus* sp. nov., was collected in 2002 on the island of Anholt, Denmark. The species is described and figured, and its affinities discussed.

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During a visit to the island of Anholt (56°40'N 11°35'E) in August 2002, Mr. Rune Bygebjerg collected a strange specimen of Proctotrupidae, tribe Cryptoserphini. The species did not fit into any Palaearctic genera according to the revision of Townes & Townes (1981). Superficially it is similar to a typical *Cryptoserphus* Kieffer, 1907, a genus with several common European species, but the specimen has the longer spur of the hind tibia less than half as long as the hind basitarsus, the radial cell is less than half as long as the stigma, and the vertical basal part of the radius is hardly as long as wide. The latter two characters exclude the similar genera *Tretoserphus* Townes, 1981 and *Mischoserphus* Townes, 1981, both with some Palaearctic species. Furthermore, the combination of unusually short antennal segments, the sculpturation of the pronotum and of the mesopleural suture, the shape and hairs of the ovipositor sheath, etc., did not match any diagnosis of a known Palaearctic genus. However, in the key to genera of the tribe Cryptoserphini in Townes & Townes (1981) the specimen ran rather smoothly to the genus *Oxyserphus* Masner, 1961, at that time containing twenty described species from New Zealand, Australia, and New Guinea, a few of them known as parasitoids of Curculionidae or Anthribidae (Coleoptera). It is a fact that many smaller genera of Proctotrupidae have a more or less Worldwide distribution, and this also seems to be the case with *Oxyserphus*.

Terminology in the description below follows Townes & Townes (1981).

Oxyserphus europaeus sp. nov.

Holotype: female, Denmark, East Jutland, western part of Anholt, 10-14.viii. 2002, Rune Bygebjerg leg. In the Zoological Museum, University of Copenhagen.

Description

Front wing 2.5 mm long. Second flagellar segment 2.0 x as long as wide; preapical flagellar segment hardly 1.2 x as long as wide, 1.3 x as wide as second flagellar segment. Pronotum medially with a fan of about seven grooves. Mesopleuron anteriorly with a large hairless area between tegula and horizontal groove; mesopleural suture with distinct foveae, three below horizontal groove. Sculpture of metapleuron and side of propodeum much as in

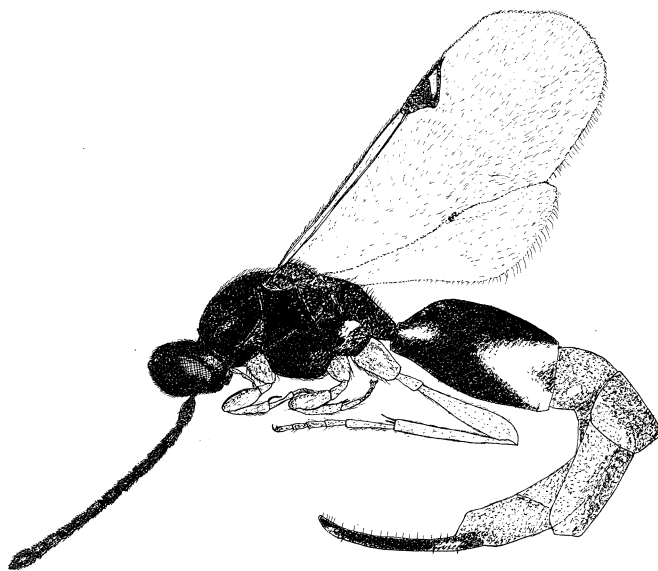


Fig. 1. *Oxyserphus europaeus* sp. nov., female holotype.

O. capitatus Townes, 1981 (Townes & Townes, 1981, Fig. 63). Hind femur 5.1 x as long as deep. Vertical part of radial vein about 0.9 x as long as wide. Base of syntergite with a median groove reaching hardly 0.5 the distance to space between thyridia, laterally with only a wide depression, no lateral striae. Thyridium 3.5 x as wide as long. Ovipositor sheath 1.3 x as long as hind tibia, with numerous outstanding hairs at most nearly half as long as depth of sheath.

Black, antennae hardly lighter. Palpi and legs almost uniformly fulvous, tarsi darkened towards apex. Veins of front wing dark brown.

Discussion

It runs to the Australian *O. sulcatus* (Riek, 1955) in Townes & Townes' (1981) key, but this species has relatively shorter ovipositor sheath than *O. europaeus* (1.05 x as long as hind tibia), and the scape and pedicel are golden yellow (rest of the antennae is missing in the unique holotype). Also the Australian *O. nigriscutum* (Dodd, 1915) is similar to *O. europaeus*, but has thorax brown, antennae brown with yellow scape, and the preapical antennal segment one and a third times as long as wide, cf. also Riek (1955). The ovipositor sheath of *O. europaeus* is most similar to those of *O. nitidus* (Dodd, 1915) and *O. rugatus* Townes, 1981, but both these species have slightly more slender antennae than *O. europaeus*, and *O. nitidus* has at least pro- and mesopleura differently sculptured than in *O. europaeus*, and *O. rugatus* has metapleura and propodeum more strongly sculptured than in *O. europaeus*, cf. Townes & Townes (1981).

References

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