

NEOTROPICAL EXODONT BRACONIDAE
(HYMENOPTERA)

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Several years ago while looking at the undetermined braconids in the collection of Dr. Henry K. Townes, I noticed the largest and most handsome specimen of alysiine I had ever seen. It was one to rival those pictured by Cameron in the *Biologia Centrali-Americana*. In Szépligeti's 1904 key this specimen runs to the genus *Mesocrina* Foerster, but I prefer to assign it, temporarily at least, to *Alysia* Latreille.

Alysia townesi sp. nov.

This species apparently is related to *Alysia pulchripennis* Cameron and *A. xanthoptera* Cameron. It resembles the former in the color pattern of the front wings, but differs in having a light-colored thorax. It resembles *xanthoptera* in general body coloring, but differs in the color pattern of the wings.

Color of thorax and abdomen testaceous; head, antennae and hind coxae dark brown, almost black; mandibles almost white; palps pale testaceous; front wings testaceous, tipped with brown, and a brown streak from stigma to posterior edge; hind wings testaceous with some brown along apical third of anterior margin; eyes, pronotum and middle coxae brown; last segment of front tarsi, last two segments of middle tarsi, all segments of hind tarsi dark brown; hind femora and tibiae dark brown except near the

joints; remaining portions of legs testaceous.

Female.—Length, exclusive of antennae and ovipositor, about 9 mm. Head, as seen from above, transverse, deeply concave behind, more or less impunctate and shining above; scattered long hairs on occiput; long yellowish hair abundant between eyes and antennae, on frons, clypeus and mandibles; eyes ovate; clypeus, frons and area between eyes and antennae finely pitted; frons with a median elevation that is widest at upper end; clypeus rounded and projecting; antennae 103- to 104-segmented, nearly twice as long as body.

Mesonotum shining, with scattered long hairs; notaulices lacking except for two shallow depressions at anterior end; mesopleuron and mesosternum shining and almost smooth, hair mostly confined to latter; propodeum rather smooth, hairy, with median carina which divides at posterior end and runs to bases of hind coxae; spiracles not projecting, enclosed in the upper end of a raised figure 8; wing venation almost as illustrated by Cameron (1887, pl. 16, fig. 23) for *xanthoptera*.

Petiole about 1.5 times as long as wide at apex, with median carina back as far as spiracles which are projecting; abdomen smooth and shining, with sparse hair, somewhat

compressed, about as long as head plus thorax; ovipositor missing from holotype.

Male.—Unknown.

Holotype, female.—*Abitagua*, Baños, Ecuador, Sept. 21, 1937, 1200 m., W. Clarke-MacIntyre. Deposited in the collection of Dr. Henry K. Townes, Raleigh, N. C.

This species is named in honor of Dr. Townes in appreciation of many courtesies.

Alysia townesi is the thirty-sixth exodont braconid to be reported from the Americas south of the United States. A catalog of these forms is appended. The eventual generic assignment of some species (for example, Spinola's) is problematical. Citations in Dalla Torre (1898) and Szépligeti (1904) are not listed in the catalog unless pertinent. The term neotropical is used here to include all of Mexico.

CATALOG OF PREVIOUSLY DESCRIBED
NEOTROPICAL EXODONT BRACONIDAE

SUBFAMILY *DACNUSINAE*

GENUS *Chorebus* Haliday

nigrifrons (Brèthes), n. comb. Chile (Los Vilos).

Gyrocampa nigrifrons Brèthes, 1921. *An. de Zool. Aplicada* 8: 6. Female.

pallidinervis (Brèthes), n. comb. Argentina (Buenos Aires).

Gyrocampa pallidinervis Brèthes, 1913. *Buenos Aires Mus. Nac. de Hist. Nat. An.* 24: 42. Female.

GENUS *Dacnusa* Haliday

diluta Spinola. Chile.

Dacnusa diluta Spinola, 1851. *In Gay: Hist. Fis. Chile, Zool.* 6: 548. Female.

tripartita Spinola. Chile (Valdivia).

Dacnusa tripartita Spinola, 1851. *In Gay: Hist. Fis. Chile, Zool.* 6: 549. Male.

SUBFAMILY *ALYSIINAE*

GENUS *Aphaereta* Foerster

apicalis Ashmead. Grenada (Mount Gay Estate), W. I., Cuba. Host: An undetermined tachinid parasite of the arrowroot leafroller, *Calpodes ethlius*.

Aphaereta apicalis Ashmead, 1895. *Zool. Soc. London Proc.* 1895: 786. Female.

Aphaerete (!) *apicalis* Dalla Torre, 1898. *Cat. Hym.* 4: 41.

Aphaereta apicalis Brues, 1908. *In Washburn, Minn. State Ent. Rept.* 12: 196.

Aphaereta apicalis Myers, 1931. *Bull. Ent. Res.* 22: 275.

Aphaereta apicalis Myers, 1935. *Bull. Ent. Res.* 26: 242.

laeviuscula (Spinola). Chile (Valdivia).

Alysia laeviuscula Spinola, 1851. *In Gay: Hist. Fis. Chile, Zool.* 6: 545. Male, female.

Alysia leviuscula Dalla Torre, 1898. *Cat. Hym.* 4: 46. Emend.

Alysia leviuscula (!) Szépligeti, 1904. *In Wytzman, Gen. Ins., fasc.* 22: 209.

Aphaereta laeviuscula Brèthes, 1916. *Rev. Chilena de Hist. Nat.* 20: 88.

melanura Schrottky. Argentina (Prov. Buenos Aires).

Aphaerete (!) *melanura* Schrottky 1902. *Buenos Aires Mus. Nac. de Hist. Nat. An.* 8: 104. Female(?).

Aphaereta melanura Schrottky, 1913. *Soc. Cient. Argentina An.* 75: 129.

testaceipes Brèthes. Argentina (Buenos Aires and Punta Lara).

- Aphaereta testaceipes* Brèthes, 1913. Buenos Aires Mus. Nac. de Hist. Nat. An. 24: 42. Male, female.
- Aphaereta testaceipalpis* (!) Brèthes, 1913. *Ibid.*, p. 165.
- [Thompson (Cat. Paras. and Pred. Ins. Pests, sec. 1 (2): 40, 1943) quotes Myers (Empire Market. Bd. Grey Book 42, 1931) as having reared *Aphaereta* sp. from *Lixophaga diatraeae* Towns., a tachinid parasite of *Diatraea* spp. which bore in sugar cane in Cuba. (See Rev. Appl. Ent. A19: 627.)]
- GENUS *Syncrasis* Foerster
- flavifrons** Ashmead. Grenada (Mount Gay Estate), W. I.
- Syncrasis flavifrons* Ashmead, 1895. Zool. Soc. London, Proc. 1895: 786. Male.
- Hoplitalysia* Ashmead
- muelleri** Schulz. Brazil (Santos, São Paulo).
- Hoplitalysia muelleri* Schulz, 1912. Zool. Anz. 39: 74. Male.
- GENUS *Idiasta* Foerster
- nigripennis** Brues. Brazil (Abuná, Rio Madeira).
- Idiasta nigripennis* Brues, 1912. Ent. Soc. Am. Ann. 5: 227. Male.
- GENUS *Cratospila* Foerster
- testacea** Szépligeti. Mexico (Las Tres Marias Ids.; ? San Juanito I.).
- Cratospila testacea* Szépligeti, 1902. Budapest Magyar Nemzeti Muz. Természet. Füzetek 25: 84. Male.
- Cratospila testacea* Schrottky, 1913. Soc. Cient. Argentina An. 75: 129.
- GENUS *Alysia* Latreille
- analís** Cresson. Cuba, Porto Rico.
- Alysia analís* Cresson, 1865. Ent. Soc. Phila. Proc. 4: 88. Male.
- Alysia analís* Riley, 1894. Linn. Soc. London Jour. Zool. 25: 58.
- Alysia analís* Wolcott, 1923. Puerto Rico Univ. Jour. Agr. 7: 69.
- Alysia analís* Leonard, 1933. Puerto Rico Univ. Jour. Agr. 17: 104.
- Alysia analís* Wolcott, 1936. Puerto Rico Univ. Jour. Agr. 20: 509.
- astarte** Haliday. St. Vincent, W. I.
- Alysia (Alysia) Astarte* Haliday, 1838. Ent. Mag. 5: 229. Male, female.
- Alysia astarte* Stelfox, 1941. Roy. Irish Acad. Proc. 47B: 13.
- bugabensis** Cameron. Panama (Bugaba).
- Alysia bugabensis* Cameron, 1887. Biol. Centr.-Amer., Hym. 1: 415. Male.
- carinata** (Szépligeti). Brazil (Blumenau).
- Goniarcha carinata* Szépligeti, 1902. Budapest Magyar Nemzeti Muz. Természet. Füzetek 25: 84. Female.
- Alysia carinata* Szépligeti, 1904. In Wytsman, Gen. Ins., fasc. 22: 209.
- cayennensis** Spinola. French Guiana.
- Alysia Cayennensis* Spinola, 1840. Soc. Ent. de France Ann. 9: 196. Female.
- championi** Cameron. Mexico (Orizaba).
- Alysia championi* Cameron, 1887. Biol. Centr.-Amer., Hym. 1: 414. Male.
- Alysia championii* Dalla Torre, 1898. Cat. Hym. 4: 45. Emend.
- chiriquensis** Cameron. Panama (Volcan de Chiriqui).
- Alysia chiriquensis* Cameron, 1887. Biol. Centr.-Amer., Hym. 1: 416. Female.
- chontalensis** Cameron. Nicaragua (Chontales).

Alysia chontalensis Cameron, 1887. Biol. Centr.-Amer., Hym. 1: 416. Female.

erythrogaster Cameron. Panama (Volcan de Chiriqui).

Alysia erythrogaster Cameron, 1887. Biol. Centr.-Amer., Hym. 1: 414. Male, female.

longicornis Cameron. Panama (Volcan de Chiriqui).

Alysia longicornis Cameron, 1887. Biol. Centr.-Amer., Hym. 1: 414. Male, female.

macrostigma Spinola. Chile ("De las provincias centrales.").

Alysia macrostigma Spinola, 1851. In Gay: Hist. Fis. Chile, Zool. 6: 544. Male.

melanocephala Cameron. Panama (Volcan de Chiriqui).

Alysia melanocephala Cameron, 1887. Biol. Centr.-Amer., Hym. 1: 415. Male, female.

nemostigma Spinola. Chile (Valdivia).

Alysia nemostigma Spinola, 1851. In Gay: Hist. Fis. Chile, Zool. 6: 546. Female.

Alysia monostigma (!) Szépligeti, 1904. In Wytzman, Gen. Ins., fasc. 22: 209.

nigriceps Cresson. Cuba.

Alysia nigriceps Cresson, 1865. Ent. Soc. Phila. Proc. 4: 87. Male.

pulchella Spinola. Chile (Valdivia).

Alysia pulchella Spinola, 1851. In Gay: Hist. Fis. Chile, Zool. 6: 547. Male (?).

pulchripennis Cameron. Panama (Volcan de Chiriqui).

Alysia pulchripennis Cameron, 1887. Biol. Centr.-Amer., Hym. 1: 413. Male.

ridibunda Say. U. S. A., Canada, Porto Rico, ? Mexico. Host: Blowfly larvae. According to Crawford, the

record of this species having been reared from *Anastrepha ludens* Lw. in Mexico is incorrect.

Alysia ridibunda Say, 1829. Contrib. Maclur. Lyc. Phila. 1 (3): 77. Male.

Alysia ridibunda LeConte, 1859. Compl. Writ. of Th. Say Ent. 1: 380.

Biology and records: (Variously recorded as *Alysia* or *Cratospila* *ridibunda*, *rudibunda*, or *rubicunda*.) Cresson, 1887. Amer. Ent. Soc. Trans., sup. vol., p. 231.—Ashmead, 1888. U.S. Natl. Mus. Proc. 11: 646.—Provancher, 1888. Addit. Corr. Faune Ent. Canada Hym., p. 391.—Bridwell, 1899. Kans. Acad. Sci. Trans. 16: 205.—Howard, 1900. Wash. Acad. Sci. Proc. 2: 556.—Smith, 1910. N. J. St. Mus. Ann. Rept. 1909: 616.—Viereck, 1917 (1916). Conn. St. Geol. and Nat. Hist. Survey Bull. 22: 214.—Anon., 1927. Mexico Sec. Agr. y Fom., Ofc. Def. Agr. Bol. 3: 1-6. (See Rev. Appl. Ent. A15: 527.)—Crawford, 1927. Calif. Dept. Agr. Monthly Bull. 16 (8): 422-445.—Muesebeck, 1928. In Leonard, N. Y. (Cornell) Agr. Exp. Sta. Mem. 101: 919.—Lindquist, 1932. Jour. Econ. Ent. 25: 414-415.—Roberts, 1935. Jour. Agr. Res. 50: 479-494.—Lindquist, 1936. Jour. Econ. Ent. 29: 1154-1158.—Wolcott, 1936. Puerto Rico Univ. Jour. Agr. 20: 509.—Brimley, 1938. Ins. N. Carolina, p. 403.—Lindquist, 1940. Ent. Soc. Am. Ann. 33: 103-112.—Muesebeck and Walkley, 1951. U. S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Monog. 2, p. 149.

ruficoxalis Cresson. Cuba.

Alysia ruficoxalis Cresson, 1865. Ent. Soc. Phila. Proc. 4: 88. Male.

semirufa Brullé. French Guiana (La Mana).

- Alysia semi-rufa* Brullé, 1846. Nemzeti Muz. Ann. Hist. Nat. 2: 197. Hist. Nat. Ins., Hym. 4: 516. Male, Female.
female.
- xanthoptera** Cameron. Panama (Volcan de Chiriqui). **mexicana** Ashmead. Mexico (San Lazaro, Baja California).
- Alysia xanthoptera* Cameron, 1887. Biol. Centr.-Amer., Hym. 1: 413. Male. *Cratospila mexicana* Fox, 1893. Nomen nudum. Calif. Acad. Sci. Proc., Ser. 2, 4: 3.
- GENUS *Phaenocarpa* Foerster *Phaenocarpa mexicana* Ashmead, 1895. Calif. Acad. Sci. Proc., Ser. 2, 5: 546. Female.
- coxalis** Szépligeti. Peru (Marcapata). **pleuralis** Ashmead. St. Vincent, W. I.
- Phaenocarpa (Idiolexis) coxalis* Szépligeti, 1904. Budapest Magyar *Phaenocarpa pleuralis* Ashmead, 1894. Linn. Soc. London Jour. Zool. 25: 137. Female.