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; SR1 — third section of the marginal (or radial) vein; CU1a — first section of the subdiscoidal (or parallel) vein.

Chremyloides tobiiasi 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.):

1(2). Head completely and coarsely granulate. Antenna with 11 antennomeres; first flagellomere 1.3 times (on Fig. 748 in Achterberg, 1995: 225 — 1.4 times) as long as second flagellomere. First discal cell narrowing distally (Fig. 747 in Achterberg l.c.). First tergite rugose and granulate, second tergite finely rugose and granulate. Second and third tergites dark reddish brown, following tergites yellowish-brown. Body length ♀ 2.2 mm, fore wing 1.5 mm ............................................. Ch. naumanni Achterberg

2(1). Frons polished, occiput subgranulate, face rugulose. Antenna with 10 antennomeres; first flagellomere 1.2 times as long as second flagellomere (Fig. 1). First discal cell not narrowing distally, rhomboid form (Fig. 4). First and second tergites granulate. Tergites brown. Body length ♀ 1.5 mm, fore wing 1.2 mm........................................................................................................ Ch. tobiiasi sp. n.

Description. Female. 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 mesepisternum and reaching its fore margin. Declivous anterior part of mesoscutum subgranulate, otherwise together with scutellum and mesopleuron polished. Fovea of mesoscutum linear-form, 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 mediadally. 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).


Male unknown.


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. ♀. 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.

**References**
