

Species of the *Microchelonus contractus* group with very short malar spaces, from Russia and neighbouring territories (Hymenoptera: Braconidae)

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Microchelonus tadjikistanicus sp. n. from Tajikistan and *M. subpusillus* sp. n. from Kazakhstan and Tajikistan are described. A key to 5 species with short malar space from Russia and neighbouring countries is given.

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There are 5 species from Russia and neighbouring territories in which the malar space is very short, one-fifth to one-fourth of longitudinal diameter of eye or even less. A key to these species is given below.

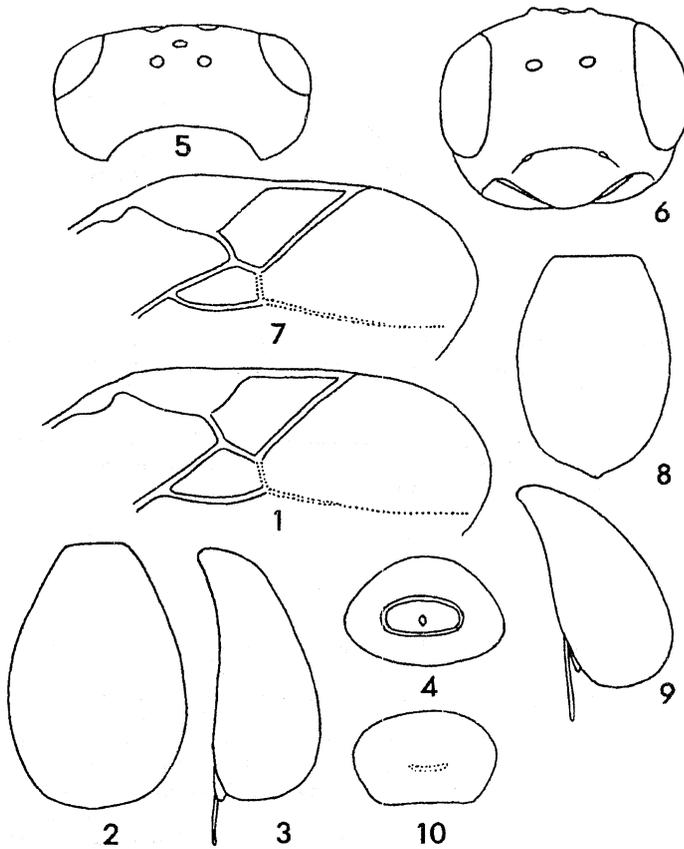
Key to species

- 1(8). Head behind ocelli and temple finely transversely rugulose. Face finely rugulose-punctate. Mesonotum moderately rugose- or rugulose-punctate. Carapace with or without longitudinal rugulae. Pterostigma longer than radial cell along metacarp.
- 2(7). Eye 4-5 times as long as malar space. Face twice as broad as high, parallel-sided. Tentorial pits far from eye.
- 3(6). Pterostigma 1.2-1.3 times as long as radial cell along metacarp. Carapace 1.4-1.5 times as long as broad. Basal half of fore wings rather hyaline, with yellowish veins.
- 4(5). Carapace ovoid, slightly incurved ventrally at apex, its length 2.5 times maximum height. Hind tibia brown-yellow, with brown apical third. Apical aperture of male carapace oval, half as broad as carapace . . . *M. tadjikistanicus* sp. n.
- 5(4). Carapace oval, in one-fifth of its length incurved ventrally at apex, usually with apical tubercle, length of carapace twice maximum height. Hind tibia brown, with yellowish basal third. Apical aperture of male carapace absent
. *M. subpusillus* sp. n.
- 6(3). Pterostigma 1.5-2.0 times as long as radial cell along metacarp. Carapace 1.6-1.7 times as long as broad, in 1/10 of its length incurved ventrally at apex, its length 3 times its maximum height. Basal half of fore wings distinctly darkened, with brownish veins. Hind tibia brown, with yellowish basal third. Apical aperture of male carapace oval, 0.2 times as broad as carapace *M. brevigensis* Tobias
- 7(2). Malar space extremely short, half as long as basal width of mandible. Face as broad as high, narrowed downwards. Tentorial pits close to eye. Pterostigma twice as long as radial cell along metacarp. Carapace 1.5 times as long as broad, in 0.15 of its length incurved ventrally at apex. Fore wings hyaline, with yellowish veins in basal half. Hind tibia brownish yellow, with brown apical third *M. longioculus* (Tobias)
- 8(1). Head behind ocelli and temple coarsely transversely rugulose. Face coarsely irregularly rugulose. Mesonotum before scutellum coarsely rugose. Carapace longitudinally rugose. Pterostigma as long as radial vein along metacarp. Carapace oval, 1.6-1.7 times as long as broad, slightly incurved ventrally at apex, its length 3 times maximum height. Hind tibia brownish yellow, with brown apical part. Apical aperture of male carapace 0.3 times as broad as carapace *M. subarcuatilis* Tobias

Holotypes and paratypes of the new species are kept in the Zoological Institute, St.Petersburg.

Microchelonus tadjikistanicus sp. n. (Figs 1-4)

Holotype. ♀, Tajikistan, 20 km NW of Kurgan-Tyube, Aruktau Mts, Gandzhina, dry meadow, 31.V.1982 (Belokobylskij).



Figs 1-10. *Microchelonus*. 1-4, *M. tadzhikistanicus* sp. n.: 1, part of fore wing; 2, abdomen (carapace), dorsal view; 3, abdomen, lateral view; 4, abdomen of male, caudal view. 5-10, *M. subpusillus* sp. n.: 5, head, dorsal view; 6, head, frontal view; 7, part of fore wing; 8, abdomen (carapace), dorsal view; 9, abdomen, lateral view; 10, abdomen of male, caudal view.

Paratypes. 2 ♂, as holotype.

Description. Female. Body length 3.3 mm. Head 1.1 times as wide as mesonotum, roundly narrowed behind eye in dorsal view, twice as broad as long, 1.2 times as broad as high. Temple as long as transverse diameter of eye. Ocellar triangle wider than OOL by half diameter of ocellus. POL 3 times diameter of posterior ocellus. Eye 1.75 times as high as broad, 4 times as high as malar space. Face twice as broad as high, 1.4 times as high as clypeus. Maxillary palpi as long as height of face. Antennae as long as head and mesosoma combined. First flagellar segment 3 times as long as wide. Subapical segments without excavation, as long as wide. Mesosoma 1.4 times as long as high. Propodeum with fine transverse carina ending laterally in a small acute tooth. Radial cell of fore wing twice greater than second radiomedial cell. Pterostigma 1.2 times as long as radial cell along metacarp. Second radial abscissa longer than first abscissa, 3 times as long as third abscissa, twice as long as first radiomedial vein. Hind femur 3.5 times as long as

broad. Hind tarsus shorter than hind tibia. Inner spur of hind tibia 0.4 times as long as hind metatarsus. Fifth tarsal segment as long as third, much shorter than second. Carapace ovoid, slightly incurved ventrally at apex, 1.13 times broader than mesonotum, 1.4 times as long as wide, its length 2.4 times maximum height. Ovipositor as long as hind metatarsus.

Head behind ocelli and temple finely transversely rugulose. Face finely irregularly rugulose-punctate, without transverse rugulae. Mesonotum moderately punctate, shiny, with coarse rugae before scutellum. Carapace with numerous, finely undulate longitudinal rugulae obliterated in its middle part.

Body black. Apices of all femora, fore and middle tibiae brown-yellow. Hind tibiae brown-yellow, brown in apical third. All tarsi brown, but hind metatarsus yellow. Wings hyaline, vein yellowish, brownish around radial and second radiomedial cells.

Male. Body length 3.3-3.4 mm. Antennae 20-21-segmented. Apical aperture of carapace oval, half as broad as carapace, about

2.5 times as broad as high. Tubercle in the center of apical aperture slender, occupying about one-fourth of aperture height, twice as long as wide.

***Microchelonus subpusillus* sp. n.**
(Figs 5-10)

Holotype. ♀, **Kazakhstan** (south), Karatau Mts, Katta-Bugun River, 19-20.VI.1982 (Belokobylskij).

Paratypes. **Kazakhstan:** 1 ♀, 3 ♂, as holotype. **Tajikistan:** 61 ♀, 20 ♂, Mogoltau Mts, 20 km NE of Bekabad, 15-17.VI.1982 (Belokobylskij).

Description. Female. Body length 2.8-2.9 mm. Head 1.2 times as wide as mesonotum, roundly narrowed behind eye in dorsal view, twice as broad as long, 1.3 times as broad as high. Length of temple 0.8 times transverse diameter of eye. Ocellar triangle wider than OOL by diameter of ocellus. POL 3 times diameter of posterior ocellus. Eye 1.7 times as high as broad, 5 times as high as malar space. Face twice as broad as high, 1.4 times as high as clypeus. Maxillary palpi as long as height of face. Antennae short, as long as mesosoma and half of head combined. First flagellar segment twice as long as wide. Subapical segments as long as wide, without excavation. Mesosoma 1.5 times as long as high. Propodeum with fine transverse carina ending laterally in obtuse tooth. Radial cell of fore wing twice greater than second radiomedial cell. Pterostigma about 1.2 times as long as radial cell along metacarp. Second radial abscissa as long as first abscissa, 4-5 times as long as third abscissa, 2-3 times as long as first radiomedial vein. Hind femur 4 times as long as broad. Hind tarsus shorter than hind tibia. Inner spur of hind tibia 0.35-0.4 times as long as hind metatarsus. Fifth tarsal segment as long as third, shorter than second. Carapace oval, usually with apical tubercle, as broad as mesosoma, in one-fifth of its length incurved ventrally at apex, 1.5 times as long as wide, its length twice maximum height. Ovipositor half as long as hind tibia.

Head behind ocelli and temple finely transversely rugulose. Face densely punctate, with fan of rugulae at upper corners. Mesonotum rugulose-punctate, faintly shiny, with irregular coarse sculpture before scutellum. Scutellum finely sculptured, shiny. Carapace with undulate longitudinal rugulae obliterated in its middle part.

Body black. Fore and middle tibiae brown-yellow. Hind tibiae brown, brown-yellow along basal half ventrally, with indistinct yellow-brown band before middle.

Male. Body length 2.8-3.0 mm. Carapace without apical aperture, often with shiny, sometimes reddish stripe in its place.

***Microchelonus brevigenis* Tobias**

Described from **Kazakhstan** (Tobias, 1986).
New material. **Hungary:** 1 ♀, Fót, Somlyóhegy, 1.VII.1960 (Mihalyi). **Russia:** 1 ♀, Samara Prov., Zhiguli Nature Reserve, dry meadow, 12.VIII.1986 (I.V. Lubvina). **Kazakhstan:** 1 ♀, Akmolinsk Prov., 45 km ESE of Ladyzhenka, 5.VI.1962 (Kerzhner).

***Microchelonus longiocularis* (Tobias)**

Described from **Kazakhstan** (Tobias, 1964; *Neochelonella*).

***Microchelonus subarcuatilis* Tobias**

Described from **Moldova** (Tobias, 1986).
New material. **Armenia:** 1 ♂, Vedi Distr., Hosrov forest, 15.VII.1962 (V. Richter). **Kazakhstan:** 1 ♀, lower course of Ural River, Kharkin, 21.VI.1951 (Tobias); 3 ♀, 3 ♂, Akmolinsk Prov., SW coast of Tengiz Lake, on *Lepidium*, 3.VII.1957 (Tobias); 4 ♀, 2 ♂, same province, Mt. Bayzhanzhay, on *Libanotis montana*, 7.VII.1957 (Tobias); 1 ♀, 1 ♂, same province, Mt. Kokshetau, near Tersakkan River, on *Libanotis intermedia*, 30.VI.1957; 1 ♀, 1 ♂, same locality, 1.VII.1957 (Tobias); 15 ♀, Tarbagatay Mts, 30 km WNW of Tarbagatay village, 19.VII.1983 (Belokobylskij); 1 ♀, 1 ♂, Semipalatinsk Prov., W. Tarbagatay, 10 km E of Kyzylkesek, 23.VII.1983 (Belokobylskij); 1 ♀, Karatau Mts, Katta-Bugun River, Leontievka, 19-20.VI.1982 (Belokobylskij); 19 ♀, 5 ♂, Chu-Ili Mts, pass Kurday, semi-desert, 11.VII.1979 (Pesenko). **Turkmenistan:** 2 ♀, Badkhyz Nature Reserve, Akar-Chashma, 3.VI.1973 (Tanasijtshuk). **Uzbekistan:** 6 ♂, Chatkal Nature Reserve, 1300-1600 m, 20.VII.1978 (Tanasijtshuk).

References

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