

A new species of *Alloplasta* Förster from Mexico (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae: Banchinae)

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Alloplasta coahuila sp. n. is described from northern Mexico.

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A new species, *Alloplasta coahuila* sp. n. from northern Mexico, is morphologically intermediate between the genera *Alloplasta* Förster, 1869 and *Cryptopimpla* Taschenberg, 1863, and probably belongs to a new genus. *Alloplasta* possesses the nervellus of fore wing intercepted near its middle, and ovipositor sheath 0.9-1.7 times as long as hind tibia. *Cryptopimpla* is characterized by the nervellus intercepted near its hind end, and ovipositor sheath about 0.6 times as long as hind tibia. The new species has the nervellus intercepted in middle like in *Alloplasta*, and a short ovipositor (0.4 times as long as hind tibia) like in *Cryptopimpla*:

We describe the new species in *Alloplasta*, because it comes to this genus by Townes's keys to genera of Banchinae (Townes, 1969; Townes & Townes, 1978). *Alloplasta* is a medium-sized predominantly Holarctic genus with 3 Nearctic species (Yu et al., 2005). No species of *Alloplasta* were recorded from Costa Rica (Gauld et al., 2002).

The types of the new species are deposited at the Insect Museum of Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas in Cd. Victoria, Mexico.

Alloplasta coahuila sp. n. (Figs 1-4)

Holotype. ♀, **Mexico**, *Coahuila*, W Arteaga, Rancho de los Pinos, 2000 m, Malaise trap, 8-11.VII.2000, leg. S. Hernández A. & C.A. Covarrubias D.

Paratypes. 2 ♀, same data as holotype, but leg. D.R. Kasparian.

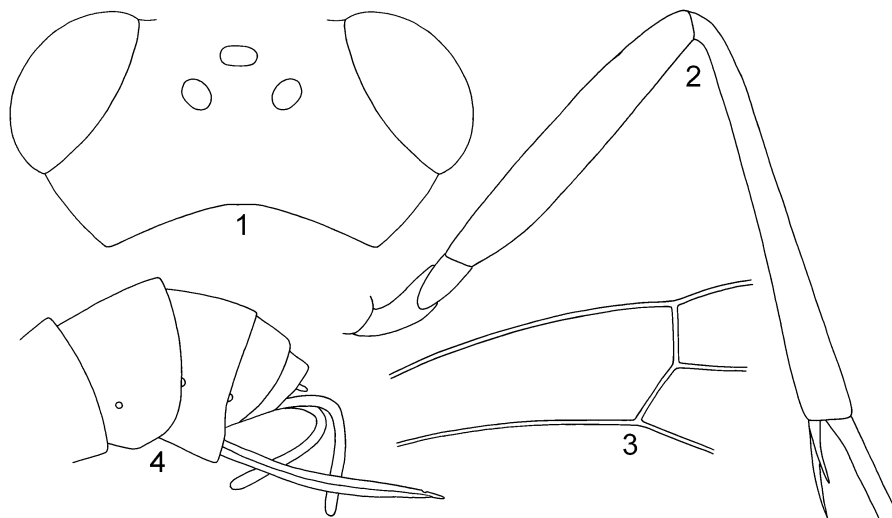
Description. Female. Fore wing length 6.4-6.9 mm. Clypeus convex, with lower margin blunt,

impunctate and matt. Mandible weakly tapering, with upper tooth longer than lower tooth. Malar space about 0.6 times the basal mandibular width. Face, frons and vertex distinctly and very densely punctate, matt. Face with weak median convexity. Frons almost flat. Temple very finely punctate, almost smooth. Head in dorsal view strongly and straightly narrowed behind eyes (Fig. 1); temple short, almost half as long as eye width (Fig. 1). Posterior ocellus separated from eye by 1.85 times its own maximum diameter. Lower end of occipital carina joining hypostomal carina above base of mandible. Antenna about 7.5 mm, longer than fore wing; flagellum strongly tapering apically, with 35-37 segments; all flagellomeres distinctly elongate.

Mesosoma entirely densely and rather coarsely punctate, polished or subpolished between punctures, with moderately long hairs. Epomia and notaulus absent. Scutellum weakly convex. Hind rim of metanotum without sublateral projection. Propodeum in profile weakly convex, without carinae, with suboval spiracle; pleural carina discernible only as a vestige posteriorly. Submetapleural carina anteriorly broadened into a rounded lobe.

Tarsal claws pectinate in their basal 0.7.

Nervulus of fore wing postfurcal, distad of basal vein by 0.4 its length. Areola of moderate size, pointed above. 2-*mcu* vein very slightly sinuate anteriorly, weakly inclivous or vertical, with one wide bulla in its anterior half. Nervellus of hind wing reclivous, intercepted in its 0.46-0.54 (Fig. 3).



Figs 1-4. *Alloplasta coahuila* sp. n. (holotype): 1, head, dorsal view; 2, femur and tibia of hind leg, lateral view; 3, base of hind wing; 4, apex of metasoma with ovipositor, lateral view.

Metasoma almost entirely polished, sometimes tergites 2-8 alutaceous laterally. First tergite 1.7 times as long as posteriorly broad, mostly coarsely punctate (excepting impunctate longitudinal median area dorsally and posterior edge), sometimes punctato-striate anteriorly and laterally; spiracle near basal 0.38. Tergites 2-4 mostly more or less coarsely and densely punctate, with impunctate posterior band, which is narrow laterally and wider dorsally. Tergite 5 finely punctate. Tergites 6-8 smooth, or sometimes tergite 6 indistinctly punctate. Ovipositor short and stout, weakly upcurved, with distinct dorsal subapical notch; sheath 0.4 times as long as hind tibia (Figs 2, 4).

Body black. Palpi dark brown. Mandible (excepting black teeth), clypeus, small subtegular spot, tegula, base of fore wing, and fore and hind coxae extending anteriorly from basal 0.2 to apex yellow. Fore and middle femora apically, and fore and middle tibiae brown to black; tarsi brownish apically. Pterostigma pale brown. Tergite 1 in its posterior 0.25, and tergites 2-8 entirely red.

Male unknown.

Comparison. The new species is easily recognisable by the extremely short ovipositor with sheath 0.4 times as long as hind tibia (Figs 2, 4). According to generic diagnosis by Townes & Townes (1978), all other species of *Alloplasta* have an ovipositor sheath not shorter than 0.9 of hind tibia length. *A. coahuila* sp. n. resembles the Nearctic

A. piceator exannulata Townes & Townes in the coloration, but differs from this subspecies in the entirely yellow clypeus and tegula and entirely black hind leg.

Etymology. This species is named after the type locality "Coahuila".

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