

A new species of the genus *Betuloxys* Mackauer from European Russia (Hymenoptera: Aphidiidae)

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Davidian, E.M. 2005. A new species of the genus *Betuloxys* Mackauer from European Russia (Hymenoptera: Aphidiidae). *Zoosystematica Rossica*, **14**(1): 127-128.

Betuloxys kostyukovi sp. n. is described from the environs of St.Petersburg. The new species is closely related to *B. assamensis* Starý from India and differs in the areolation of propodeum and structure of antenna and ovipositor sheath.

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The types of the new species are deposited at Zoological Institute, St.Petersburg.

Betuloxys kostyukovi sp. n. (Figs 1-5)

Holotype. ♀, **Russia**, St.Petersburg, Dibuny, 12.VII.1975 (leg. Kostyukov).

Paratypes. **Russia**: 1 ♀, same data as in holotype; 1 ♀, St.Petersburg, Levashovo, 9.IX.1974 (leg. Kostyukov); 1 ♀, St.Petersburg, Pesochnyi, from *Betula* sp., 20.VI.2005 (leg. E.M. Davidian).

Description. *Female*. Body length 1.6-1.7 mm, length of antennae 1.3-1.4 mm.

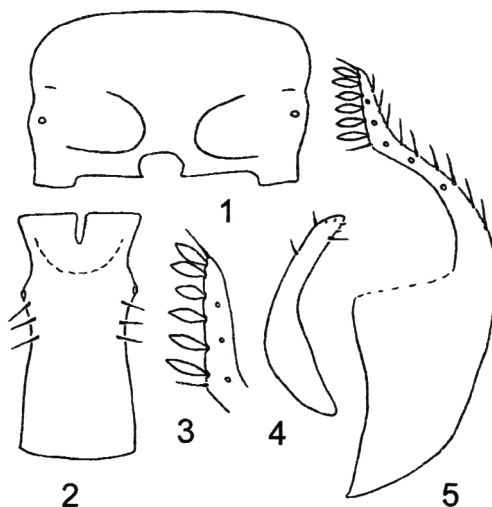
Head transverse, wider than thorax at level of tegulae, smooth and shiny, sparsely haired, behind eyes almost parallel-sided anteriorly and roundly narrowed posteriorly. Temple (dorsal view) shorter than longitudinal diameter of eye. Postocellar line 2.5 times as long as maximum diameter of lateral ocellus. Eyes large, broadly oval, rather convergent toward clypeus. Face 1.3 times as long as wide; head 2.7-3.0 times as wide as face. Clypeus with three long hairs, 2.5 times as wide as high. Tentorio-ocular line about half of intertentorial line. Antennae 12-segmented, distinctly thickened after 4th segment. First flagellar segment 3.0 times as long as wide and slightly longer than 2nd segment. Mesoscutum vertically falling to pronotum. Propodeum with incomplete areola, with two carinae diverging anteriorly. Petiole with distinctly prominent spiracular tubercles, twice as long as width at spiracles level. Pterostigma 2.7 times as long as wide, approximately twice as long as metacarpus and shorter than radial vein. Prongs on dorsal margin of dilated subapical part with six widely lanceolated bristles and two simple hairs, which are

Ovipositor sheath narrow, gradually narrowed to apex, with one long hair on ventral margin of its subapical part.

Colour. Clypeus, mandibles (except apices), 4 basal segments of antennae, legs, petiole and prongs yellow. Head, the rest flagellar segments, thorax, apical part of tarsus, abdomen and ovipositor sheaths brown.

Male unknown.

Comparison. The new species is closely related to *B. assamensis* Starý from India (Starý & Ghosh, 1975) and differs in the propodeum with incompletely delineated areola, antennae 12-segmented, and ovipositor sheaths with one long



Figs 1-5. *Betuloxys kostyukovi* sp. n., female. 1, propodeum; 2, petiole; 3, apical part of prongs; 4, ovipositor sheath; 5, prongs.

subapical hair on the ventral margin. *B. kostyukovi* sp. n. differs from the Palaearctic *B. hortorum* Stary (Stary, 1960) in the areolation of propodeum and presence of lanceolate bristles on apical part of prongs; from the Indian *B. takecallis* Stary (Stary & Raychaudhuri, 1978), it differs in the areolation of propodeum and in the prongs separated throughout; from *B. compressicornis* Ruthe (Ruthe, 1859) distributed in Europe and Nearctic, it differs in the shape of petiole with distinctly prominent spiracular tubercles, shape of ovipositor sheaths and presence of lanceolate bristles on apical part of prongs.

Host. Unknown.

Etymology. The species is named after V.V. Kostyukov, the collector of the type material.

Acknowledgements

I am very grateful to Drs V.I. Tobias and S.A. Belokobylskij for permanent attention to my study.

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Received 21 February 2005