A NEW SPECIES OF COCCOPHAGUS FROM CHIAPAS, MEXICO
(HYMENOPTERA:CHALCIDIOIDEA:APHELINIDAE)

SVETLANA N. MYARTSEVA
División de Posgrado e Investigación, UAM Agronomía y Ciencias, Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas,
Ciudad Victoria, 87149, Tamaulipas, México

ABSTRACT
A new species of aphelinids, Coccophagus tseeceeni sp.n. from the state of Chiapas, Mexico, is described.

Keywords: Coccophagus tseeceeni sp.n., Mexico.

INTRODUCTION
Coccophagus Westwood 1833 with more than 200 described species is worldwide distributed aphelinid genus. The revision of the world species of Coccophagus of H. Compere (1931) remains a highly serviceable and authoritative account of the genus. In Mexico are known to occur 10 species (Myartseva & Ruiz-Cancino, 2000; Myartseva & Coronado-Blanco, 2003; Noyes, 2002). C. lycimnia (Walker, 1839) and C. scutellaris (Dalman, 1825) are cosmopolitan, C. ochraceus Howard, 1895 is nearly cosmopolitan, C. grenadensis Hayat, 1994, C. mexicanus Girault, 1915, C. mexicensis Girault, 1917 and C. pallidiceps (Compere,1939) are distributed in Neotropical region, and C. quaestor Girault,1917 also in Nearctic; C. rusti Compere, 1928 is species of African origin, introduced to USA and Peru and possibly penetrated to Mexico by ecosis (Noyes, 2002; Myartseva & Coronado Blanco, 2003).

Genus Coccophagus is rather poorly studied in Mexico. The author found some undescribed species of Coccophagus in Mexico, one from them is described in this article as Coccophagus tseeceeni sp.n.
DESCRIPTION

*Cocophagus teeceeni* Myartseva, sp.nov.  
*(Figs. 1-6)*

**Female:** Body length: 1.50 mm.

**Coloration:** Head dark brown, occiput above foramen black. Antennal scape yellow, pedicel light brown, funicle and club brown to black. Mesosoma black, scutellum yellow with 1/3-1/2 of basal part black, infuscate spot apically between long bristles. Fore wings with a large and distinct infuscation beneath the apical half of the marginal vein; infuscation slightly not arrives at posterior margin of wing. Legs black; fore tibiae, apices of middle femora and tibiae brownish yellow, hind coxae and all tarsi (except infuscate apical segment) yellowish white. Long hairs on lateral margins of propodeum white. Setae on head dorsum, thorax and gaster brown to dark brown.

**Morphology:** Head as wide as mesosoma, slightly wider than height. Frontovertex 0.5 of head width and about 4 times as wide as long (measured across fore ocellus). Ocelli forming an obtuse apical angle; hind ocelli arranged very close to occipital margin; posterior ocellus about 1.5 diameter to eye margin. Eyes finely setose, about 2 times as long as cheeks. Mandible (Fig. 1) with one tooth and wide truncation. Clypeus with small median tooth. Malar sulcus absent. **Antennae (Fig. 2)** inserted immediately under lower level of eye margins. Distance between toruli about 1.6 times shorter than that to eye and to mouth margin. Scape about 3 times as long as wide. Pedicel 1.4 times as long as wide. First funicular segment twice as long as wide and about 1.6 times as long as pedicel. Second segment is a rather shorter and about 1.6 times as long as wide. Third segment a rather shorter than second and 1.3 times as long as wide. Club 2.5 times as long as wide and slightly shorter than two preceding funicular segments combined. All antennal segments with short outstanding setae; funicle and club with many longitudinal sensilla, on funicle segments arranged in two rows. Midlobe of mesoscutum about 1.5 times as wide as long; scutellum about the same length and slightly wider than length. Each side lobe and each axilla with 4 and 1 setae, respectively; scutellum nearly as densely setose as midlobe and with two pairs of longer bristles.
the longest on apical margin. Propodeum mesad of spiracles with longitudinal fine ridge, medially membranous, almost divided, laterally with thin long hairs. Fore wings 2.2 times as long as wide. Submarginal vein with 7 long setae. Marginal vein about 1.4 times as long as submarginal; postmarginal vein as long as stigmal vein (Fig. 3). Midtibial spur slightly shorter than basitarsus (Fig. 4); basitarsus slightly shorter than three preceding tarsal segments combined. All tibiae and tarsi densely setose, midtibial bastarsus with row of short stout setae along inner margin; hind tibiae with the dorsal margin furnished with strong, suberect spines and with two strong spurs (one 1.5 times longer). Seventh abdominal tergite about 2.5 times as broad as long, with scattered setae (Fig. 5). Ovipositor (Fig. 6) slightly exserted, about 1.6 times as long as middle tibia; third valvula 0.2 times as long as second valvula.

**Male:** Unknown.

**Comments:** According to Hayat (1998), *Cocophagus teecceeni* s.p.n. may refer to *malthusi*-group of species. In this species-group it is similar to *C. diius* Hayat and *C. silvestrii* Compere, but differs from both species mainly in coloration: its thoracic pleura completely dark brown, not yellow, head and legs brown to black (only hind coxae and tarsi yellowish-white), not yellow to pale. New species is similar also to *C. nigratus* Compere, described from Kenya, Eritrea and South Africa and introduced to California, USA. It can be distinguished by follows: In *C. teceeeni* - antenna with scape yellow, scutellum partly yellowish white; propodeum divided medially; hind tibia with two strong spurs (one about 1.5 times shorter), third valvula about 1.5 times shorter than midtibial spur. In *C. nigratus* - antenna testaceous, scutellum dark, hind coxae dark. propodeum not divided medially; hind tibia with two strong, subequal spurs; hind valvula subequal or only slightly shorter than midtibial spur.

Differences of *C. teceeeni* from other species with pale hind coxae in contrast to the blackish coloration of legs are given in the key below.

**Key for identification of species of the world fauna of Cocophagus with pale hind coxae in contrast to the blackish coloration of legs**

1. Fore wings hyaline. Scape and pedicel dark brown. Propodeum change to yellow. – Panama. USA .......................... albicoxa Howard
- Fore wings infuscate or slightly stained along under the marginal vein 

2. Fore wings slightly stained along under the marginal vein. Scape and pedicel yellowish, apical border of scutellum yellow, propodeum entirely black. – Bermuda, Panama, Mexico ........................................... mexicanus Girault

- Fore wings with a large and distinct infuscated cloud beneath the apical half of the marginal vein .....................................................

3. Basitarsus of middle and hind legs basally and midtibial spur entirely blackish. Scutellum black. – Kenya, Uganda ........................................... coracinus Compere

- Basitarsus of middle and hind legs and midtibial spur entirely whitish. Scutellum on 1/2/3 of apical part yellow. – Mexico ........................................... teceeni sp.nov.

**Material examined:** MÉXICO, Chiapas, Berriozabal, Cierro ombligo, matorral, 3 females, including holotype, 5 IV 1997 (A.Martínez).

Holotype female is deposited in UCR (Entomological Research Museum of University of California, Riverside, California, USA). One paratype female is deposited in USNM (US National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C., USA) and one female – in UAT (Entomological Museum of University of Tamaulipas, Ciudad Victoria, Mexico).

**Etymology:** Coccophagus teceeni is named in honour of Professor Dr. T.C.Narendran (Department of Zoology, University of Calicut, Kerala, India) – the famous entomologist of India, known chalcidologist worldwide, who published many works about different Chalcidoidea of India and other countries of the world.

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REFERENCES


