

Review of the systematics of *Trachagathis* Viereck (Hymenoptera: Braconidae: Agathidinae)

MICHAEL SHARKEY

S-225, Dept of Entomology, University of Kentucky, Agric. Sci. Bldg-N., Lexington, KY, 40546, USA.
E-mail: msharkey@uky.edu.

Abstract

The phylogenetic position of *Trachagathis* Viereck is discussed. Two new combinations are proposed. *Agathis rubricincta* Ashmead (1894) and *Agathis depressifrons* Braet and van Achterberg (2003) are transferred to *Trachagathis*, *Trachagathis rubricincta* **n. comb.** and *T. depressifrons* **n. comb.** *Elasmopalpus lignosellus* (Zeller) Pyralidae, the lesser cornstalk borer, is recorded as a host of *T. rubricincta*.

Key words: *Elasmopalpus lignosellus*, taxonomy, parasitoid, wasp, biological control

Introduction

Viereck (1913) proposed the genus *Trachagathis* with *T. taenogaster* Viereck as the only included species, based on one specimen from Paraguay. Two other species currently placed in *Agathis* also belong to *Trachagathis*, i.e., *Agathis rubricincta* Ashmead (in Riley et al., 1894), based on a series of specimens from St. Vincent in the Lesser Antilles, and *Agathis depressifrons* Braet and van Achterberg (2003) based on one female from French Guiana. It is the purpose of this paper to make the appropriate new combinations for these nominal taxa, to present evidence for the monophyly of *Trachagathis*, to discuss its phylogenetic placement, and to publish the first host record for the genus.

Materials

Type Material

Holotype ♀, *Agathis rubricinctus* Ashmead, 1894, “Windward Side, St. Vincent, W.I. [West Indies], British Museum (Natural History), [Examined]