



## ***Mannomicrus* (Hymenoptera: Diapriidae), a new genus of myrmecophilic diapriid, with a digital version of Masner and García's (2002) key to New World Diapriinae and an illustration of digital description and key markup using an ontology**

MATTHEW YODER

Department of Entomology, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, 77843, USA. E-mail: diapriid@gmail.com

### **Abstract**

*Mannomicrus* Yoder **gen. nov.** is described with the type species *Hemilexis jessei* Mann, 1914. The genus is only the second myrmecophilic member of the tribe Spilomicrini (Diapriidae: Diapriinae) known from the New World. The new genus is diagnosed versus potentially closely related genera and included in an updated on-line version of a recently published key to New World Diapriinae, which is introduced here. The digital key extends the utility of the original key with additional annotations, navigational functions, and additional images. Both the text of the key and an on-line version of the description can be "marked-up", with words contained there-in checked against an ontology of Hymenoptera morphology terms and linked where matches are found. The usage and means to produce the digital products are briefly reviewed. Both the key and a digital version of the description presented here mark the start of a new web site on diapriid systematics available at <http://www.diapriid.org>.

**Key words:** *Mannomicrus*, myrmecophilic, Diapriidae, New World, electronic key, taxon pages, ontology

### **Introduction**

Numerous myrmecophilic diapriids are known for the New World (*e.g.* Huggert and Masner 1983; Loíacono 1981, 1987, 2000; Loíacono *et al.* 2000; Loíacono and Margaria 2002; and for a comprehensive list of genera see Masner and García 2002). The vast majority of these genera belong to a single tribe of Diapriinae, the Diapriini, though their association with ants has likely evolved independently in several lineages (Masner, pers. comm., Yoder, unpublished). There are several notable exceptions to the general rule that myrmecophilic species in the New World belong to the Diapriini: 1) some species of *Coecopria*, a genus of uncertain placement (Masner and García 2002), are known to be ant parasites (Loíacono and Margaria 2002); 2) species of *Bruchopria* belong in the Spilomicrini; and 3) the enigmatic *Hemilexis jessei* (Spilomicrini) is reported to be myrmecophilic (Mann 1914). In the Old World *Spilomicrus myrmecophilus* Nixon (Nixon 1947) is the only available record for a myrmecophilic spilomicrine.

*Hemilexis jessei* Mann, 1914 was last treated in Johnson (1992) where it was transferred, without review, to *Entomacis* based on the synonymy by Muesebeck (1958) of *Hemilexis* Foerster with *Entomacis* Foerster. It is known only from the type series. Yoder (2004), based in part on unpublished information from Lubomir Masner, excluded *H. jessei* from *Entomacis* and left it *incertae-sedis*.

Masner and García (2002) provided a much needed key to the identification of New World Diapriinae, including several newly described genera. As new taxa are discovered, such as the one presented here, it is desirable to extend rather than re-invent Masner and García's (2002) key. Towards this end a digital reproduc-