



European species of *Tubpontania* gen. nov., a new genus for species of the *Pontania crassispina* group (Hymenoptera: Tenthredinidae: Nematinae)

VELI VIKBERG

Veli Vikberg, Liinalammintie 11 as. 6, FI-14200 Turenki, Finland. E-mail: veli.vikberg@aina.net

Abstract

Tubpontania gen. nov. (type species *Nematus anomalopterus* Förster, 1854), is proposed for the species of the former *Pontania crassispina* group. *Tubpontania anomaloptera* (Förster, 1854), **comb. nov.**, = *Amauronematus maidli* Zirngiebl, 1937, syn. nov., = *Nematus (Pontania) tuberculatus* Benson, 1953, syn. nov. Other European species of the genus are *Tubpontania cyrnea* (Liston, 2005) (= *Pontania joergenseni* Enslin, 1916, syn. nov.; preoccupied by *Pontania jörgenseni* Strand, 1908), *Tubpontania crassispina* (Thomson, 1871), **comb. nov.**, *Tubpontania purpureae* (Cameron, 1884), **comb. nov.**, and *Tubpontania nudipectus* (Vikberg, 1965), **comb. nov.** *Tubpontania nitidinota* sp. nov., closely related to *T. nudipectus*, is described from Fennoscandia.

Furthermore, the following North American species belong here: *Tubpontania arctophilae* (Benson, 1960), **comb. nov.**, *Tubpontania populi* (Marlatt, 1896), **comb. nov.**, *Tubpontania pumila* (Rohwer, 1910), **comb. nov.**, *Tubpontania rotundidentata* (Zinovjev & Vikberg, 1999), **comb. nov.** and *Tubpontania terminalis* (Marlatt, 1896), **comb. nov.**

Key words: *Salix*, Nematini, Euurina, leaf-rolling sawflies, taxonomy, new genus, new species, distribution, Europe

Introduction

Based on morphological characters of adults and larvae, Vikberg (1982) divided Nematini sensu stricto into three subtribes: Pristiphorina, Nematina and Euurina. A phylogenetic study of Nematinae (Nyman *et al.* 2006) has confirmed that these three taxa are monophyletic, so that the tribes Pristiphorini (Pristiphorina sensu Vikberg) and Nematini (Nematina plus Euurina sensu Vikberg) now contain the bulk of species belonging to the so called higher Nematinae. The monophyly of gall-making Euurina was doubted by Zinovjev & Vikberg (1999). A main reason for this was that two types of left mandible occur in the subtribe, one of which is not found in other higher Nematinae but only in Dineurini. Nevertheless, DNA sequencing (Nyman *et al.* 2006) has confirmed (Fig. 1) that gall-making Euurina genera form a monophyletic group within the Nematini, and that *Euura* Newman, 1837 and *Eupontania* Zinovjev, 1985, which have *Dineura*-type left mandibles, are sister genera and are clearly separated from *Pontania* Costa, 1852 and *Phyllocolpa* Benson, 1960 which have twisted left mandibles, as in all other genera of Nematini. The different shape of left mandible of *Eupontania* and of *Pontania-Phyllocolpa* was illustrated in Zinovjev & Vikberg (1999; figs. 1 and 2).

The *Pontania crassispina* group was introduced by Vikberg (1982) for four Fennoscandian species which were regarded as intermediate between *Pontania* and *Phyllocolpa*. Adults are structurally like *Pontania* s. str. (the sawsheath rounded below the apex in lateral view and 4th hind tarsal segment long), but larvae are leaf-rollers. Later, Zinovjev (1985, 1993a, 1993b) also used this species group name. A key to species groups of *Pontania* and *Phyllocolpa* was provided and the Holarctic species of the *Pontania crassispina* group were treated by Zinovjev & Vikberg (1999). The North American *Pontania myrtillifoliae* Benson, 1960 was subsequently removed from this group (Zinovjev 2006). In Europe, the group included five leaf-rolling species: *Pontania crassispina* (Thomson, 1871), *P. purpureae* (Cameron, 1884), *P. joergenseni* Enslin, 1916, *P. tuberculata* (Benson, 1953) and *P. nudipectus* Vikberg, 1965. The morphological characters of the adults