Eleven new replacement names in the genus Mesochorus Gravenhorst, 1829 (Ichneumonidae: Mesochorinae)

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Abstract. Eleven new replacement names in the genus Mesochorus Gravenhorst, 1829 are proposed due the synonymy with Plectochorus Uchida, 1933 and Stictopisthus Thomson, 1886 made by Wahl in his cladistic analysis of the genera of Mesochorinae.

Key words: Hymenoptera, Ichneumonoidea, parasitoid wasps.

Mesochorinae Förster, 1869 is a relatively small subfamily of ichneumonid wasps with approximately 800 described species (Yu et al., 2012). In addition to the four genera described by Wahl (1993) (Artherola, Chineater, Thamester and Varnado), Wahl published a cladistic analysis currently used as reference for the group, recognizing nine valid genera and proposing Plectochorus Uchida, 1933 and Stictopisthus Thomson, 1886 as junior synonymies of Mesochorus Gravenhorst, 1829. This approach generated some nomenclature problems, because some of the species transferred to Mesochorus share the same specific name with others previously described in that genus. To resolve this problem and following the recommendation of article 53.2 of ICZN (2012) eleven new names are proposed for species currently recognized as members of Mesochorus. None of the species mentioned in this paper have junior synonyms.

Mesochorus angustior new name
Stictopisthus angustatus Benoit, 1955 (=Mesochorus angustatus) non Mesochorus angustatus Thomson, 1886: 343.
Etymology: This new name refers to the original species name.
Comment: When Stictopisthus was synonymized with Mesochorus the species M. angustatus (Benoit) became a junior homonym of M. angustatus Thomson, thus necessitating a new name.

Mesochorus arthridion new name
Etymology: This name refers to original name.
Comment: This homonymy was generated by Schwenke (1999), when he described Mesochorus artus, previously occupied by M. artus (Dasch), making necessary a new name for the species described by Schwenke.

Mesochorus asiaticus new name
Etymology: The new name refers to the region where this species occurs.
Comment: Replacement name necessary after the synonymy between Plectochorus with Mesochorus, that made M. taiwanensis (Lee) a junior homonym of M. taiwanensis Kusigemati.

Mesochorus celenotherax new name
Plectochorus nigrithorax Lee & Suh, 1991: 3 (=Mesochorus nigrithorax) non Mesochorus nigrithorax Kiss, 1926: 112.