

## **A new *Cryptalyra* species from Colombia (Hymenoptera: Megalyridae)**

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### **Abstract**

A new species of Megalyridae, *Cryptalyra colombia* Shaw, is described. This is the first record of the parasitoid wasp family Megalyridae from Colombia, and only the second known species of the genus *Cryptalyra* Shaw.

**Key words:** Hymenoptera, Megalyridae, *Cryptalyra*, South America, Colombia, new species

### **Introduction**

The family Megalyridae comprises eight extant genera of parasitoid wasps with a largely pantropical distribution (Shaw 1988; Shaw 1990a). Megalyrids are primarily associated with ancient tropical forests but the greatest richness of species has evolved in the *Eucalyptus* woodlands and *Acacia* scrub of Australia (Shaw 1990b). By comparison the South American Megalyridae are exceedingly rare and virtually unstudied. Only three Neotropical megalyrid species have been described so far, each classified in a unique genus (Shaw 1987). *Rigel chiliensis* Shaw and *Neodinapsis peckorum* Shaw are known only from Chile. *Cryptalyra plaumanni* Shaw is known only from Brazil. No Megalyridae species has previously been recorded from Colombia. The purpose of this paper is to describe and name a new *Cryptalyra* species recently discovered in Colombia.

The family Megalyridae is regarded as monophyletic and can be distinguished from other hymenopteran families by the presence of subantennal grooves, uniquely reduced hind wing venation (with only Sc+R and R1 veins) and the unusual position to the mesothoracic spiracle, which is migrated anteriorly and completely surrounded by pronotal cuticle (Shaw 1988; Gauld & Hanson 1995). The family Megalyridae can be identified using keys provided by Goulet & Huber (1993). An identification key to Neotropical