

## ***Dermatopelte* Erdös & Novicky (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) newly recorded from the Nearctic region, with description of two new species**

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### **Abstract**

The eulophid genus *Dermatopelte* is reported from the Nearctic region for the first time, represented by two new species, *Dermatopelte yanegai* n. sp. and *D. sinaloensis* n. sp. The new species are compared with *Dermatopelte budensis*, the only valid species previously included in the genus, and the genus is compared with similar genera in the Eulophini.

**Key words:** Eulophidae, Eulophinae, Chalcidoidea, parasitoid, new species, new record

### **Introduction**

This article reports the first known occurrence of the genus *Dermatopelte* Erdös & Novicky in the Western Hemisphere, from the southwestern portion of the Nearctic biogeographical region. This discovery is presented here, with the description of two new species, to make researchers aware of the occurrence of the genus in the region and to bring attention to this poorly known but phylogenetically significant genus.

*Dermatopelte* previously contained one valid species, *D. budensis* Erdös & Novicky, known from mainland Europe (Noyes 2003). It belongs to the well-defined tribe Eulophini as evidenced by the propleura (Fig. 11) in contact throughout their length (Gauthier *et al.* 2000). Within the Eulophini it unambiguously belongs in the more vaguely defined *Elachertus* Spinola group, as evidenced by the complete notauli and scutellar grooves that curve to meet posteriorly (Figs. 5, 9). Although some members of the *Elachertus* group lack one or both of these characters, and some members of the *Eulophus* Geoffroy group have faint or ambiguous versions of them, the *Elachertus* group remains an at least convenient group for those genera that clearly possess both characters.