

***Epsilogaster fullertoni*, a new species of *Epsilogaster* Whitfield and Mason (Hymenoptera: Braconidae: Mendesellinae) from Florida, USA**

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Abstract

A new species of *Epsilogaster* recently discovered from Florida, *Epsilogaster fullertoni* Pitz n. sp., the third species of *Epsilogaster* described from the Nearctic region is described and the key to species of *Epsilogaster* is updated to include *E. fullertoni*.

Key words: Hymenoptera, Braconidae, Mendesellinae, *Epsilogaster*, Nearctic, Taxonomy

Introduction

Whitfield and Mason (1994) described the subfamily Mendesellinae, the two included genera, *Mendesella* and *Epsilogaster*, and nine species. Additional species have been identified and described from material collected through large-scale biodiversity inventories from Colombia, Costa Rica and Mexico (Valerio and Whitfield 2000, 2002; Delfin et al. 2002; Figueroa et al. 2003) raising the total number of described species of *Epsilogaster* to 10, including *E. fullertoni*. Malaise trap samples from multiple habitats around the University of Central Florida campus, Orange Co., FL, and surrounding areas within the county yielded the new species described below. The key to species of *Epsilogaster* provided by Figueroa et al. (2003) is updated to include *E. fullertoni*.

Materials and Methods

Wing venation terminology follows Sharkey and Wharton (1997, Figs. 13–21). Generic identification was accomplished using the Whitfield (1997) key to the genera of Mende-