

Three new species of *Percnobracon* Kieffer & Jörgensen (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) from Argentina, reared from cecidomyiid (Diptera) and eurytomid (Hymenoptera) galls

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Abstract

Three new species of the doryctine genus *Percnobracon* (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) are described from Argentina; all of them associated with *Prosopis caldenia* (Fabaceae): *Percnobracon pampeanus* Martinez, **sp. nov.**, reared from galls of Dasineurini (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae), *P. rugosus* Martinez, **sp. nov.**, reared from eurytomid (Hymenoptera) galls and *P. witru* Martinez **sp. nov.** A key to the known species of *Percnobracon* is presented.

Key words: Braconidae, Doryctinae, *Percnobracon*, galls, *Prosopis*

Introduction

Doryctinae is a very diverse braconid subfamily, specially in the tropics (Marsh 1997). In the Neotropical region several new taxa have been described in the past decade, raising the number of genera to about two thirds of the global generic diversity, however their biology remains largely unknown (Marsh 1993; 2002; Barbalho *et al.* 1997; Braet & van Achterberg 2001; Braet *et al.* 2003; Belokobylskij *et al.* 2004).

The genus *Percnobracon* was proposed by Kieffer and Jörgensen (1910) as a part of their study of gall forming insects in Mendoza, Argentina. The type species, *P. stenopterus* Kieffer & Jörgensen, was reared from galls of *Liebeliola prosopidis* Kieffer & Jörgensen (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae) on *Prosopis strombulifera* (Fabaceae). A second species, *P. secundus* Muesebeck, was described from Peru and is possibly associated with a bruchid or lepidopterous host on pods of *Caesalpinia* (Fabaceae) (Muesebeck 1958) and it was recently reported to occur in Costa Rica (Marsh 2002).

Marsh (1997; 2002) provided keys to separate *Percnobracon* from other doryctine