



A new genus of oak gallwasps, *Kinseyella* Pujade-Villar & Melika, with a description of a new species from Mexico (Hymenoptera: Cynipidae: Cynipini)

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Abstract

A new genus of a cynipid oak gallwasp, *Kinseyella* (Hymenoptera: Cynipidae: Cynipini) is described from Mexico. Diagnostic characters and generic limits of the new genus are discussed in details. A new species, *Kinseyella quercusobtusata* is described, which induces galls on leaves of *Quercus obtusata*, an endemic Mexican oak. One earlier known species from Mexico was transferred to the newly established genus, *Kinseyella lapiei* (Kieffer), **comb. nova**. Diagnostic characters for separation of two species are also given.

Key words: Cynipidae, gallwasp, *Kinseyella quercusobtusata*, *K. lapiei*, taxonomy, distribution, biology

Introduction

Gallwasps (Cynipidae) are distributed mainly in the temperate zone of the northern hemisphere. The oak gallwasps (Cynipini) are by far the most species-rich group of gallwasps, with *c.* 1000 species in 25 genera worldwide (Csóka *et al.* 2005; Stone *et al.* 2007; Abe *et al.* 2007). The Western Palearctic is represented by 139 species in 10 genera (Stone *et al.* 2007) and only 34 valid species are known from the Eastern Palearctic (Abe *et al.* 2007). The known fauna is richest in the Nearctic region, with *c.* 700 species in 22 genera (Melika & Abrahamson 2002), which from *c.* 154 species are known from Central America and Mexico (Kinsey 1936, 1937a, b, 1938; Pujade-Villar, 2008; Pujade-Villar *et al.* 2009a, b; Melika *et al.* 2009, *in press*), while the rest from the USA and Canada (Burks 1979).

The vast majority of *c.* 1000 known Cynipini species induce galls on oaks (*Quercus* L.) in Fagaceae, within Fagoidea, with a few exceptions: (i) the Eastern Palearctic *Dryocosmus kuriphilus* Yasumatsu which induces galls on *Castanea* L. (Castanoidea, Fagaceae), (ii) two Nearctic species, *Dryocosmus castanopsisidis* (Beutenmueller) and *Dryocosmus rileypokei* Morita & Buffington on *Chrysolepis* Hjelmq. (Beutenmueller 1917; Buffington & Morita 2009), and (iii) *Andricus mendocinensis* Weld on *Lithocarpus* Blume (Weld 1957). The genus *Quercus* is divided into two long-established subgenera – the strictly Asian subgenus *Cyclobalanopsis* (the cycle cup or ring cup oaks, 76 species), and the more widespread subgenus *Quercus* (455 species) (Nixon 1993; Govaerts & Frodin 1998). The majority of oak gallwasps induce galls on *Quercus* subgenus *Quercus*, which is divided into four sections: *Lobatae* (the red oaks, =*Erythrobalanus*),