Two new Afrotropical genera and species of braconine wasps (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) with descriptions of new species

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Abstract

Two new genera Presoter gen. nov. and Admonitosoter gen. nov. (Braconinae, Braconidae) are erected to include two new species from the southern part of Africa. These species are Presoter yusufi sp. nov., from South Africa and Admonitosoter rafiqui sp. nov. from Congo. These new genera appear closely related to Serrundabracon Achterberg and Soter Saussure.

Key words: Hymenoptera, Braconidae, Braconinae, identification, new genus, description

Introduction

The braconid subfamily Braconinae is one of the largest and the most diverse of the subfamilies of Braconidae, which comprises approximately 250 recognised genera, the great majority of which are endemic to the Old World tropics (Quicke 1987a). Since the publication of that key a number of additional genera have been described from subsaharan Africa (Quicke 1987b, Achterberg and Sigwalt 1987, Quicke 1988, Braet 1999, Achterberg 2003) but the fauna is still far from completely known even at generic level. While examining the Braconinae collection in the Natural History Museum, London we noted that some specimens, did not fit well in with description of any genus and indeed would not key to any genus. Here we erect two new genera to accommodate new species from Africa. Both new genera are superficially similar to Serrundabracon Achterberg.

Materials and Methods

The specimens were studied with help of Olympus microscope. Photographs were taken with digital camera Olympus Camedia C-730, from microscope with help of lense and adaptor, using fluorescent light source (Fluopac FP1). Terminology largely follows that of Achterberg (1979, 1988). Specimens examined are in the Natural History Museum, London, UK (BMNH) and Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, Hungary (HNHM). All new taxa described below should be attributed to Mahmood, Quicke & Papp.

Presoter Mahmood, Quicke & Papp, gen. nov. (Figs 1–3a/b)

Head: Terminal flagellomere pointed, not acuminate, approximately as long as basally wide, flagellum approximately equal to fore wing, median flagellomeres approximately as long as wide. Scapus large sub-globose, longer ventrally than dorsally, apico-laterally emarginate (Fig. 1e). Head strongly cubic, smooth and