



***Dentalion* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae: Entedoninae) a new genus from tropical America with eleven new species**

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Abstract

Dentalion **gen. nov.** (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae: Entedoninae), is described from the northern part of the Neotropical region, from Costa Rica to Ecuador and Brazil, and the Caribbean (Trinidad & Tobago). It comprises eleven new species: *D. alveum*, *D. ambonatum*, *D. apertum*, *D. apon*, *D. crassicornis*, *D. jimenezi*, *D. mischum*, *D. noyesi*, *D. pinguicornis*, *D. pnigaliae*, *D. quadrifer*. These species are diagnosed, described and illustrated, and a key for their identification is provided. *Dentalion* is characterized by two putative autapomorphies and two synapomorphies. The phylogenetic implications of these apomorphies are discussed briefly.

Key words: neotropical, identification key, taxonomy

Introduction

This is a contribution to the knowledge of the eulophid fauna in the Neotropical region. The fauna in this part of the world has had several major additions during the last ten years, e.g. Hansson 2002, 2004, 2009a and Schauf et al. 2001. However, in spite of these recent taxonomic treatments several genera of the subfamily Entedoninae, the group to which most additions have been made, remain untreated and some of these have not been described yet. These undescribed taxa possess information that is unavailable and are thus unable to inform hypotheses on the classification and relationships of the subfamily. The new genus described here, *Dentalion*, is very distinct and is easily recognized because of the presence of a single tooth on the hind femora, which is a unique feature within the subfamily. Another derived feature suggests a sister-group relationship with *Emersonella* Girault, a genus comprising 58 species that are confined to the Americas, with the majority of species occurring in tropical America.

Morphological abbreviations and acronyms

Abbreviations of morphological terms: HE = height of eye; HW = height of forewing; LG = length of gaster; LM = length of marginal vein; LW = length of forewing, measured from base of marginal vein to apex of wing; MM = length of mesosoma; MS = malar space; OOL = distance between one posterior ocellus and eye; PM = length of postmarginal vein; POL = distance between posterior ocelli; POO = distance between posterior ocelli and occipital margin; ST = length of stigmal vein; WH = width of head; WM = width of mouth; WT = width of thorax. For illustrations of the morphological terms see www.neotropicaleulophidae.com.

Collection acronyms used in this article are: BMNH = The Natural History Museum, London, England; CNC = Canadian National Collection of Insects, Arachnids and Nematodes, Ottawa; INBio = Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad, Santo Domingo, Costa Rica.

The ratios of morphological measurements, summarized in Table 1, are based on the holotype and one paratype (if present) of the other sex.