



A new Afrotropical genus *Doggerella* gen. nov. of braconine wasp (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) with twelve new species

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Abstract

A new genus *Doggerella* gen. nov. (Braconinae, Braconidae) is erected to include one previously described and twelve new species predominantly from the southern part of Africa. These species are *Doggerella turneri* sp. nov. (the type species), *D. augustata* sp. nov., *D. longitergita* sp. nov., *D. deflexa* sp. nov. and *D. sulphurea* sp. nov. from Republic of South Africa (Cape Province), *D. albopilosa* (Szépligeti, 1913) comb. nov. from Kenya, *D. azhari* sp. nov. and *D. minuta* sp. nov. from Namibia, *D. cohaerens* sp. nov. from Angola, *D. landingi* sp. nov. and *D. shaheena* sp. nov. from Cote d'Ivoire, *D. mishkati* sp. nov. from Madagascar and *D. transversa* sp. nov. from Zimbabwe. Photomicrographs are provided to illustrate morphological characters of the species.

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

Introduction

The braconid subfamily Braconinae 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 sub-Saharan Africa (Quicke 1987b, 1988, Achterberg and Sigwalt 1987, Braet 1999, Achterberg 2003) but the fauna is still far from well known even at generic level. While examining the type material of Szépligeti housed in the Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, we noted that *Bracon albopilosa* Szépligeti, 1913, from South Africa, did not fit well within *Bracon* Fabricius and indeed would not key to that genus, or even to the Braconina, in Quicke (1987a), because its small scapus was distinctly longer ventrally than dorsally, though otherwise it bears considerable similarity to *Bracon* Fabricius and apparently closely related genera such as *Cratocnema* Szépligeti.

Over the past few years several additional specimens congeneric with *B. albopilosa* have come to our attention, all representing apparently undescribed species. Here we erect a new genus, *Doggerella* gen. nov., for *B. albopilosa* together with twelve new species which collectively originate from diverse parts of sub-Saharan Africa. These small wasps appears to be closely related to *Braconella* Szépligeti (1906) and *Cratocnema* Szépligeti (1914).

Materials and Methods

The specimens were studied using a microscope. Photographs were taken with an Olympus Camedia C-730 digital camera, using a fluorescent light source (Fluopac FP1). Scanning electron microscopy was conducted using Electron Microscope ISI ABT-55 (with environmental chamber) and specimens were observed without coating) in the Natural History Museum, London, UK. Terminology largely follows that of Achterberg (1979, 1988); however, the following changes should be noted: inter-tentorial distance is measured between the middle of the tentorial pits; face length is measured from the dorsal margin of the clypeus to the anterior edge of the antennal sockets; fore