



Revision of Malagasy *Odontepyrus* Kieffer (Hymenoptera, Bethylinae)

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Abstract

Four new species of *Odontepyrus* from Madagascar are described and illustrated: *O. acrius* Alencar et Azevedo, **sp. nov.**, *O. cynpus* Alencar et Azevedo, **sp. nov.**, and *O. escus* Alencar et Azevedo, **sp. nov.** based on females and *O. bedus* Alencar et Azevedo, **sp. nov.** based on both males and females. Placoid sensillae in medial surface of flagellomere is firstly recorded to Bethylinae. A key to Malagasy species is provided.

Key words: Chrysoidea, Bethylinae, new species, placoid sensillae, Madagascar, Afrotropical region

Introduction

The bethylin wasp genus *Odontepyrus* Kieffer 1904 is one of the most recognizable genera of Bethylinae mainly due to the large size and for being unique among the genera of this subfamily with median longitudinal and transverse carinae in the propodeal disc. As far as known, species of *Odontepyrus* attack some lepidopteran larvae, including Pyralidae and Noctuidae (Kurian 1954, 1955; Krombein 1996; Lim *et al.* 2009).

Currently the genus contains 34 valid species worldwide. However, *Odontepyrus* is an infrequently captured group (see Azevedo 2006, Mugrabi & Azevedo 2010). The majority of its species is known from small series, even one or two specimens only, often just by females (one species is known only for male specimens and eight have males associated with females).

According to Xu & He (2006), the genus is recorded mainly from the Oriental region but there are few species from the Palaearctic, Ethiopian and Australian Regions. We studied here *Odontepyrus* material recorded from Madagascar by Mugrabi & Azevedo (2010).

Material and methods

The material examined was provided by CASC, California Academy of Sciences, USA (Robert Zuparko). All specimens were collected under the scope of the project “Madagascar Arthropod Inventory” (NSF grant # BSI 0072713) coordinated by Brian Fisher. We have used the abbreviation MT for Malaise trap, YPT, for yellow pan trap.

The nomenclature used for integument sculpture follows Harris (1979), except for the term coriaceous that follows Eady (1968), general terms follow Evans (1964), Polaszek & Krombein (1994), and Azevedo (1999). The terms for sensillae follow Hashimoto (1990) and Rocha *et al.* (2007).

Measurements and indices used in this study are as follows: body length measured from the apex of clypeus to the posterior margin of the last metasomal segment; LH, length of head, measured in frontal view, from vertex crest to median apical margin of clypeus; WH, width of head, measured in frontal view, its maximum width including eyes; WF, width of frons, measured in frontal view, its minimum width, usually about bottom of eyes; HE, height