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## ***Charmon ramagei* sp. nov., a new Charmontinae (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) from Reunion, with a synopsis of world species**

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### **Abstract**

*Charmon ramagei* sp. nov. is described from Reunion. The small subfamily Charmontinae now comprises nine extant and one fossil species. This new species is readily distinguishable from other *Charmon* spp. due to the presence of a Y-shaped mid-longitudinal propodeal carina. The key to the world species of the subfamily is updated, and a synoptic table provided to compare their critical morphological features.

**Key words:** Parasitic wasps, koinobiont endoparasitoids, hot spot volcanic island, Indian Ocean

### **Introduction**

Charmontinae form a small subfamily of non-cyclostome Braconidae, with only two extant genera: *Charmon* Haliday, 1833 (seven species) and *Charmontia* van Achterberg, 1979 (one species). The fossil genus *Paleocharmon* Belokobylskij *et al.*, 2010, with one extinct species, has recently been described from the amber of the Paris Basin. Charmontinae are nevertheless widespread, being reported from all biogeographical regions except Antarctica (Yu *et al.*, 2012). Morphologically, they are characterized by a unique combination of features: occipital carina present, fore wing with vein r-m absent, hind wing with anal cross vein present (Fig. 2D), ovipositor very long and longitudinally ridged. They used to be considered as a tribe of Homolobinae (van Achterberg, 1979), but were later raised to subfamily rank (Quicke and van Achterberg, 1990). They show some similarities with Macrocentrinae: the longitudinally ridged ovipositor strongly resembles that of *Macrocentrus* Curtis (Quicke and van Achterberg, 1990). They are larvo-pupal koinobiont endoparasitoids of concealed caterpillars; their recorded hosts belong to 16 families of Lepidoptera (Yu *et al.*, 2012).

A new species belonging to the genus *Charmon* is described, bringing the total number of species in the genus to eight. I also provide an updated key to the world species of Charmontinae, and a comparison of the critical features differentiating the extant species of the subfamily.

### **Material and methods**

**Biogeography of Reunion.** The origin of the Reunion entomofauna was discussed by Martiré and Rochat (2008) for Lepidoptera, stressing the strong influence of the Afrotropical region and the weaker contribution of the Indo-Pacific fauna. Endemism is also noticeable in Reunion, a small island of 2 500 km<sup>2</sup> with large areas of primary habitats still conserved. Granger (1949) pinpointed that the non-endemic braconid fauna in the Madagascar subregion mainly comes from continental Africa, though the influence of a Gondwanan origin has not to be neglected.