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## New and interesting Peritelini of the Western Mediterranean fauna. XX. A novel *Meira* (Jacquelin du Val, 1852) species from the Ligurian Alps

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### Abstract

*Meira diottii*, **nov.sp.** from the Ligurian Alps is described. Relevant anatomical characters are detailed and illustrated with drawings and photography. Characteristic sensilla on the penis are identified and illustrated with scanning electron microscopy. Relationships with other *Meira* species are proposed.

**Key words:** Curculionidae, Entiminae, Peritelini, *Meira*, taxonomy, new species, Italy, Western Palearctic

### Introduction

Originally described by Camille Jacquelin du Val in 1852, the genus *Meira* was revised by Pierotti & Bellò in 1998. A small series of individuals from the Ligurian Appennines and sent to one of the authors (HP) by our friend and colleague Luciano Diotti, and additional samples later collected at the same localities by the authors and by Diotti, represent a novel species, described here. Another set of samples from the Western Ligurian coast are not identical to the topotypic ones but are to be considered as belonging to the same new species.

The collections holding the type specimens are indicated by the following acronyms: cCB = coll. Cesare Bellò, Castelfranco Veneto (Treviso); cGO = coll. Giuseppe Osella, Verona; cHP = coll. Helio Pierotti, Treviso; cLD = coll. Luciano Diotti, Cinisello Balsamo (Milan); cMNHG = coll. Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Geneva.

### *Meira diottii* n. sp.

**Type specimens:** **Holotype** ♂: Colle di Caprauna (CN), sent. Madonna della Guardia, m 1490, 27.IX.2010, leg. Pierotti (cHP). **Paratypes:** 23 ex., ibidem, 27.IX.2010, leg. Pierotti (cGO 1 ex., cMNHG 1 ex., cHP 21 ex.); 6 ex., ibidem, 5.XI.09, leg. Diotti (cLD); 5 ex., ibidem, 5.XI.09, leg. Monzini (cLD 4 ex., cHP 1 ex.); 35 ex., ibidem, 27.X.010, leg. Diotti (cLD 30 ex., cHP 5 ex.); 6 ex, ibidem, m 1500, 27.X. 10, leg. Monzini (cLD); 3 ex., Pend. M. Dubasso m 1300 (Alto Cuneo), 20.IX.1994, leg. Gardini & Giusto (cHP). Other specimens examined: Verezzi (SV), M. Caprazoppa, 20.5.90, leg. Pierotti (cHP), leg. Bellò (cCB); ibidem, 11.XI.1973, leg. Bartoli (cHP); ibidem, m 220, 14.XI.1998, leg. Giusto & Farinella (cHP); Borgio Verezzi (SV), 2.I.1994, leg. Bosi (cHP); Toirano dint. (Savona), 28.IV.1994, leg. Giusto (cHP); Bèvera (IM), località Verese, 29.X.05, leg. Diotti (cLD, cHP).

**Diagnosis.** *Meira* species, habitus short oval, with pterygia hardly prominent, antennae very robust, pronotum hardly transverse, elytra with setae slightly elongate raised or semi-erect.

**Description.** Species of intermediate size as compared with other *Meira* (2.6-3.4 mm), and overall shape short and ovate (Plate 1, fig. 1). Dorsal vestiture of unicolored dark scales with no metallic shine, rather or hardly imbricate, and rather elongate setae, appressed or reclined on the pronotum (Plate 1, fig. 2), raised or semi-erect on elytra (Plate 1, fig. 3).

Rostrum transverse; epistomal keel not present; pterygia hardly prominent; clypeus rather gibbous, sometimes curved at right angle on a longitudinal axis and gradually elevated on the frons.