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Nomenclatural Notes on the Eurytomids (Chalcidoidea: Eurytomidae) Described by Jean Brèthes Housed in Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales “Bernardino Rivadavia”

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Abstract

Ten Eurytomidae (Hymenoptera) parasitic wasp species described by Jean Brèthes and deposited in the Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales in Buenos Aires are treated and their nomenclature stabilized. The condition of the type material is described. Lectotypes are designated for *Decatoma cecidosiphaga* Brèthes, *Prodecatoma parodii* Brèthes, *Eudecatoma opposita* Brèthes, and *Eurytoma caridei* Brèthes. One new generic synonymy, *Xanthosomodes* Brèthes with *Tetramesa* Walker, **n. syn.**, and five new combinations are proposed: *Tetramesa albiangulata* (Brèthes), **n. comb.**; *Phylloxeroxenus caridei* (Brèthes), **n. comb.**; *Aximopsis vulgata* (Brèthes), **n. comb.**; *Proseurytoma parodii* (Brèthes), **n. comb.**; and *Brychophagus opposita* (Brèthes), **n. comb.**. *Sycophila paranensis* Brèthes is declared **incertae sedis**.

Key words: lectotype, Argentina, *Proseurytoma*, *Aximopsis*, *Eurytoma*, *Sycophila*, *Phylloxeroxenus*, *Tetramesa*

Introduction

Juan Brèthes (1871–1928) was associated with the National Museum in Buenos Aires (MACN), beginning in 1890, where he published 220 scientific papers, primarily taxonomic works on Hymenoptera and Diptera (Dallas 1928). With respect to Chalcidoidea, he published 68 papers between 1905 and 1928 that covered, at least in part, the superfamily. He described a total of 10 species of Eurytomidae, plus one new genus. Almost all of his type material was deposited in MACN, but was neglected for approximately 50 years after his death until M. A. Fritz organized it and alphabetized his files (Genise 1990). Fritz determined that Brèthes placed a numbered label on his types that corresponded to an identification in a notebook kept at MACN. These numbers, in conjunction with comparison to the original description, are essential in determining which specimens Brèthes intended to serve as types. This is primarily due to the fact that Brèthes rarely used identification labels and that his locality labels were typically incomplete when compared to that published in the description.

During a visit to MACN in April 2010, I had the opportunity to examine Brèthes's material and borrow it for study. Herein I report nomenclatural changes based on an analysis of specimens, notes, and original descriptions.

Material and methods

A Nikon SMZ1500 stereomicroscope with 10X oculars (Nikon C-W10X/22) and a Chiu Technical Corporation Lumina 1 FO-150 fiber optic light source were used for specimen observation. Mylar film was placed over the ends of the light source to reduce glare from the specimen. All nomenclatural acts proposed herein are based on examination of original type material, unless otherwise noted. Comments appearing in brackets are notes by the author, label data are reported verbatim with lines in a label separated by a comma and label information separated by a “/”. Abbreviations for collections are as follows: USNM (National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., USA), MACN (Museo de Ciencias Naturales, Buenos Aires, Argentina), MLPA

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