

A new contribution to the knowledge of Neotropical Eumeninae (Hymenoptera, Vespidae)

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Abstract

A new species, *Pirhosigma sulcata* Ferreira & Hermes, sp. nov. is described from the Brazilian Amazon; the male of *Pararhaphidoglossa gibbiventris* Giordani Soika, 1978 is described for the first time. *Pseudodynerus carpenteri* Hermes & Melo, 2008 is newly recorded from Brazil. New collecting data are reported for *Pseudodynerus griseus* (Fox, 1902) and *P. subapicalis* (Fox, 1902).

Key words: Amazon Forest, Brazil, distribution, potter wasps

Introduction

Eumeninae are the speciose subfamily within the vespids, with approximately 3600 described species. Historically, the taxonomy of the group had suffered from unadvised splitting of genera (e.g. Blüthgen 1938a, 1938b; Giordani Soika 1978), which resulted in a proliferation of names that only highlighted the difficulties in recognizing many taxa. Only recently a cladistic approach was used to infer the higher-level phylogenetic relationships within the eumenines (Hermes *et al.* 2014), which also allowed for a tribal classification proposal. In the same context, some genera are being revised and synonymized in accordance with cladistic results (e.g. Grandinete *et al.* 2015), emphasizing how subjective was the splitting that took place in the last century.

The tribe Eumenini currently includes 21 genera, of which 12 are exclusively Neotropical (the introduced *Delta* de Saussure and the cosmopolitan *Eumenes* Latreille are also found in the Neotropics). Species in this tribe are known for building exposed mud pots, despite some camouflage and renting behaviors may be observed (Hermes *et al.* 2013; and Hermes *et al.* 2015, respectively). Within this tribe, *Pirhosigma* Giordani Soika, 1978 includes six species and four subspecies. Later, Carpenter and van der Vecht (1991) synonymized *Tricomenes* Giordani Soika, 1978 under *Pirhosigma*, and included *T. pilosus* (Fox, 1899) in the latter. Also within Eumenini, *Pararhaphidoglossa* von Schulthess, 1910 currently includes 42 valid species, being 20 of them recently described by Cooper (2012, 2013a, 2013b, 2014), who has started to split the genus into species groups.

Odynerini is by far the most species rich tribe within Eumeninae, including species with great morphological variety and different nesting strategies. Within it, *Pseudodynerus* de Saussure, 1855 was recently revised and cladistically investigated by Hermes and Melo (2008) and Hermes (2010). Currently with 16 described species, most members of the genus are poorly represented in collections, with five species known only from their holotypes.

In the present contribution, a new species of *Pirhosigma* Giordani Soika, 1978 is described from the Brazilian Amazon Forest. The hitherto unknown male of *Pararhaphidoglossa gibbiventris* Giordani Soika, 1978 is described. New collecting records are presented and commented for *Pseudodynerus* de Saussure, 1855.