

Dudichilla crassicornis gen. et sp. n., a New Pteromalid Genus and Species from the Hungarian Fauna (Hymenoptera: Chalcidoidea)

By

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To Professor Endre Dudich, Ph. D.
on His 75th Birthday

During a quantitative cenological investigation conducted on the southern slope of a limestone hill covered with a xerothermous plant community, a mosaic of Ceraso (mahaleb)-Quercetum pubescentis and Festucetum sulcatae chrysopogonetosum et stipetosum capillatae, in Central Hungary, I collected by sweeping, in a Chalcidoid fauna typical for such communities, a single female specimen of a conspicuously shaped Pteromalid species. Its strongly depressed body and strikingly formed antennae apparently represent a new genus. Although I endeavoured to take other specimens and collected repeatedly in the same place during the three following years, my efforts were of avail. The species thus seems to be very rare. In the following I give the description of the genus and species.

Dudichilla gen. nov.

Body flattened; head, as seen from above, very strongly transverse, from in front a little broader than high; antennae below middle of face, insertions almost level with lower eye margin; two ring joints, six funicle joints and three-jointed club, very strongly clavate, sharply pointed at tip (as in some *Merisine* species). Thorax depressed from above, flattened, pronotum strongly transverse, with tolerably sharp anterior angles, abruptly (almost vertically) declining anteriorly; mesoscutum much longer than pronotum, parapsidal grooves faintly indicated anteriorly, scutellum with slight frenum, medial portion almost circular, about as broad as long, propodeum level with mesoscutum and scutellum, median carina shortly indicated at base, with sharp, slightly bending spiracular

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furrows on each side; wings normal, marginalis more than twice, postmarginalis twice, as long as stigmalis; legs slender, normal; gaster petiolated, about as long as thorax, shrunken above, ovipositor one-third as long as hind tibia. Male unknown.

The new genus resembles *Syntomopus* WALK., from which it differs by the form of the antennae and the strongly depressed body.

Type-species: *Dudichilla crassicornis* sp. n.

Dudichilla crassicornis sp. n.

(Fig. 1)

Female: Length 2.5 mm. Dull metallic blue, gaster almost blackish with a very slight purplish tinge, antennae dark brown, tip of club somewhat reddish, legs brown, femora with a slight bluish tinge, base and tip of tibiae yellowish, mid and hind tarsi, except claw-joint, yellow.

Head much wider than thorax (1.3:1), strongly transverse, four times as broad as long (4:1), ocelli in a very low triangle, hind ones a little more removed from each other than from eye margin; eyes a little more than twice as long as broad, bare, inner margins straight; head in front a little broader than high (1.3:1), densely and sharply reticulated, front above antennal socketlets with short impression, cheeks a little longer than half length of eye, clypeus with a small, sharp tooth in middle (mandibles not seen). Antennae short, hardly longer than width of head, strongly clavate, scape cylindrical, only a little shorter than funicle, pedicel pear-shaped, a little longer than wide; ring joints strongly transverse, funicle 1 slightly, following joints very strongly transverse, rapidly broadening, funicle 6 almost three times as wide as long, club joints rapidly narrowing, 1st and 2nd club joint strongly transverse, 3rd joint triangular, produced at tip into a long, slightly curved stylus.

Thorax almost twice as long as broad (1.9:1), strongly flattened, more than twice as broad as high (2.2:1), thoracic dorsum densely and sharply reticulated, weakly shining, this reticulate sculpture much more dense on scutellum than on pronotum and mesoscutum; pronotum strongly transverse, abruptly declining anteriorly, without a sharp anterior margin but with sharp anterior angles, about twice as long at sides than medially, about four times as broad as long, the sides diverging backwards; mesoscutum twice as broad as long, almost four times as long as pronotum in middle, notaulices anteriorly only slightly indicated, present behind as a slight, shallow impression only; axillae at base a little broader than base of median lobe of scutellum, this latter almost circular, about as long as broad; tip of scutellum and metascutellum indistinctly reticulate, tolerably shining; propodeum with dense, net-like sculpture, somewhat shining, with some indications of a short, shining nearly smooth median carina at base and with a short impression on each side; spiracles oval, spiracular furrows narrow but deeply impressed, slightly bending inwards, callus with about 15 white hairs; legs normal, slender; wings normal, reaching tip of gaster, hyaline with hardly visible, white discal ciliae; submarginalis with about 7 bristles, one and a half times as long as marginalis, postmarginalis a little shorter than marginalis, stigmalis half as long as marginalis, stigmal knob normal, hardly thrice as long as remainder of vein.

Gaster (with petiole) a little longer than thorax (1:1.1) petiole one and a half times as long as broad, densely reticulated, as long as hind coxae, sides of gaster nearly parallel, dorsum sunken, first tergite with straight hind margin, 6th tergite covered with a few hairs; ovipositor as long as the two basal tarsal segments combined.

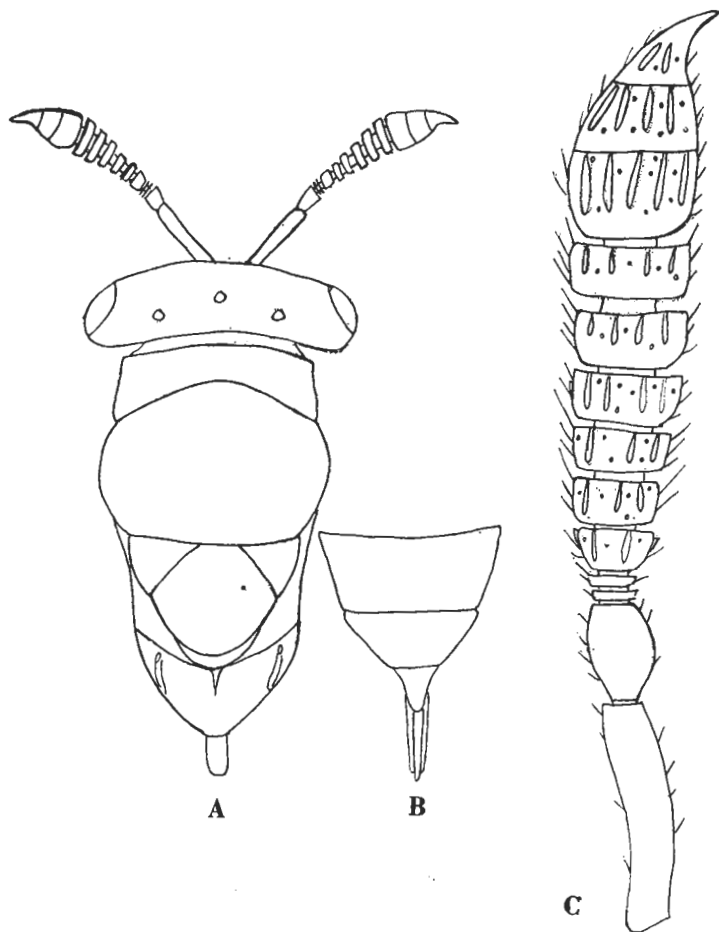


Fig. 1. *Dudichilla crassicornis* gen. n., sp. n. A: Head and thorax, B: Last two tergites of gaster with ovipositor, C: Antenna of female

Male and life-history unknown.

Type locality: Csobánka: Oszoly, Hungary, 12 April, 1961. Dedicated in esteem to Prof. Dr. E. DUDICH, Academician, on the occasion of his 75th birthday.

Holotype preserved in the Zool. Dept. of the Hungarian Nat. Hist. Museum, Hym. Typ. Nr. 2522.