

Revision of the Papua New Guinean fig wasp genus *Robertsia* Bouček (Hymenoptera: Chalcidoidea: Pteromalidae: Sycoecinae)

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Abstract

Two new species of *Robertsia*, *R. weibleni* and *R. vaamondei* are described from Papua New Guinea. Four species of *Robertsia* are now known from a single host fig tree species, *Ficus xylosyca*. Illustrations and keys are provided for both sexes of all four species. An online key is available at: http://www.figweb.org/Fig_wasps/Pteromalidae/Sycoecinae/Key/Robertsia.htm. Host relationships and biology are discussed.

Key words: *Ficus*, fig wasp, new species, *Robertsia*, taxonomy

Introduction

There are currently six described genera in the Sycoecinae, four of these (*Sycoecus* Waterston, *Seres* Waterston, *Philocaenus* Grandi and *Crossogaster* Mayr) are restricted to the Afrotropical region, where they are associated with the host *Ficus* (Moraceae) section *Galoglychia* of subgenus *Urostigma* (van Noort 1994). The two Indo-Australasian genera, *Diaziella* Grandi (1928) and *Robertsia* Bouček (1988), are each associated with a unique *Ficus* section (section *Urostigma* [subsection *Conosycea*] and section *Stilpnophyllum* [subsection *Malvanthera*] respectively) of subgenus *Urostigma*.

Robertsia is a recently discovered and described genus (Bouček 1988), erected to include two species collected in Papua New Guinea: *Robertsia mandibularis* Bouček and *R. xylosyca* Bouček, both reared from *Ficus xylosyca* Diels (Bouček 1988).

Paucity of sycoecine fig wasp collections in the Indo-Australasian region is exemplified by the genus *Diaziella* where the 12 described species are collectively known from a mere nine localities within a generic distribution encompassing the island of Borneo and