

Generic definition, key, and two new species of *Polyphrix* Townes (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae: Cryptinae) from the Atlantic Forest

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Abstract

Two new species, *Polyphrix atlantica* sp. n. and *P. cristata* sp. n., are described from southeastern Brazil, representing the first records of the genus in the Atlantic Forest. Only one species was previously known, *P. varians* Townes, from northern Brazil; its occurrence in Peru is refuted. The definition of the genus *Polyphrix* Townes is revised and expanded. Illustrations and a key to species are provided.

Key words: Phygadeuontinae, Cryptini, Lymeonina, Neotropical, taxonomy

Introduction

The subtribe Lymeonina is a group of cryptine wasps with 16 of 17 currently valid genera occurring primarily or exclusively in the neotropical region (Yu & Horstmann, 1997), including *Polyphrix* Townes. The subtribe is mostly characterized by the notaulus reaching to about the center of the mesoscutum; hind margin of postscutellum without a projection on each side; transverse furrow at the base of the propodeum often with a series of vertical wrinkles; and petiole without basal lateral teeth (Townes, 1970). Known hosts include various cocoons, and nests of polistine vespids (Townes, 1970).

The genus *Polyphrix* was proposed by Townes (1970) and can be recognized by the propodeum with a series of strong, straight, transverse wrinkles behind the anterior transverse carina, posterior transverse carina and apophyses absent; notaulus faint; mesoscutum smooth and shiny; and transverse furrow at the base of the propodeum wide, smooth and polished. The faint notaulus and the propodeum sculpturing are unique among neotropical Lymeonina. The biology is unknown, but the morphology of the genus fits well the description of Townes & Townes (1962) for a group of cryptines which are parasitoids of