

***Pediobius sasae* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae), a new species from galls on dwarf bamboo (*Sasa nipponica*) in Japan**

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Abstract

Pediobius sasae **sp. nov.** (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) is described from Japan. This new species belongs to the “*eubius*-complex” of species and is compared to the species of that group. It was reared from galls induced by an unidentified gall midge of the tribe Oligotrophini (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae). The galls are formed on stems of dwarf bamboo (*Sasa nipponica*). *Pediobius sasae* is a solitary primary parasitoid on the gall midge, but possibly also acts as a secondary parasitoid of another parasitoid reared from the same host, an unidentified species of *Torymus* (Hymenoptera: Torymidae).

Key words: *Pediobius*, *Torymus*, Eulophidae, Torymidae, Oligotrophini, Cecidomyiidae, *Sasa nipponica*, Japan, taxonomy

Introduction

In connection with an investigation about deer browsing on dwarf bamboo and the subsequent effects on the interspecific relationships between a cecidomyiid host and its parasitoids on this plant (Ueda *et al.* 2006), one species of *Pediobius* was frequently encountered. The genus *Pediobius* Walker is a large genus with some 200 species known worldwide (Noyes 2002), and is found in all zoogeographical regions. The fauna of *Pediobius* in Japan has been thoroughly investigated (Kamijo 1977, 1983, 1986a, 1986b), and prior to this contribution 28 species of the genus were recorded from Japan (Kamijo 1986b). Comparisons with the known species of *Pediobius* clearly indicated that the species from *Sasa* was undescribed. The interesting biological information, i.e. the interaction between deer, dwarf bamboo, gall midge and the Hymenoptera parasitoids is published elsewhere (Ueda *et al.* 2006). However, this information is best linked to scientific species names and therefore one of the unnamed species is described and given a