



## The species of *Megaphragma* Timberlake (Hymenoptera: Trichogrammatidae) from Argentina

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Trichogrammatidae are an almost worldwide family of egg parasitoids that consist of 88 genera (Pinto 2006). Species of *Megaphragma* Timberlake (tribe Oligositini) are egg parasitoids of Thysanoptera. Fifteen species are assigned to *Megaphragma*, but only three have been reported from the Neotropical region (Noyes 2002). *Megaphragma mymaripenne* Timberlake (1924) has been recorded previously from Argentina (De Santis 1970), but *M. striatum* Viggiani (1997) was known only from Mexico, and *M. caribea* Delvare (1993) is known only from Guadeloupe (Noyes 2002; Pinto 2006).

Recently, one of us (E. Luft) reared *Megaphragma* sp. from eggs of Thysanoptera on corn in San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina, and this record instigated a review of all material of the genus recorded from Argentina. We searched for specimens deposited in the major entomological collections of Argentina: Instituto Fundación Miguel Lillo (San Miguel de Tucumán) (IMLA), Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales “Bernardino Rivadavia” (Buenos Aires city) (MBA), and Museo de Ciencias Naturales de La Plata (La Plata, Buenos Aires province) (MLPA), but found specimens only in MLPA. In addition, one of us (G. Viggiani) studied material of *Megaphragma* from Argentina preserved in two other collections, that of the University of California Riverside (UCR) and of the Universidad Rómulo Gallegos, Venezuela (URGV). The results of this study are presented here.

### Key to females of *Megaphragma* from the Neotropical region

- |   |   |                                  |
|---|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 | Antenna with 1 funicular segment and 2-segmented club after anellus .....   | 2                                |
| - | Antenna without funicle, but with 2 or 3-segmented club after anellus .....   | 4                                |
| 2 | Funicular segment 3x as long as wide .....  | <i>Megaphragma</i> sp. A         |
| - | Funicular segment less than 2x as long as wide .....  | 3                                |
| 3 | Metasoma with first tergite (T1) reticulate (Viggiani, 1997, fig. 9); T2–T4 with a pair of setae shorter than length of each segment .....    | <i>M. mymaripenne</i> Timberlake |
| - | Metasoma with a few transversal striations on T2; T2–T4 with a pair of setae longer than length of each segment (Viggiani, 1997, fig. 6)..... | <i>M. amalphanum</i> Viggiani    |
| 4 | Club 3-segmented .....  | <i>M. striatum</i> Viggiani      |
| - | Club 2-segmented .....  | <i>M. caribea</i> Delvare        |

### Species of *Megaphragma* known from Argentina

#### *Megaphragma* sp. A

We have seen a single female of what probably represents an undescribed species, but prefer not to describe it until more material is available to assess variation. The primary feature that differentiates this female from other Neotropical *Megaphragma* is its long (three times as long as wide) and cylindrical funicle segment, similar to that of *M. polychaetum* Lin (1992, fig. 3B).