



Trichrysis baratzsensis sp. nov. (Hymenoptera: Chrysididae) from Sardinia*

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Abstract

Trichrysis baratzsensis sp. nov., from Lago Baratz (Sassari province, Sardinia), is described and compared with all other Palaearctic congeners. A key for the identification of Mediterranean *Trichrysis* species is also provided.

Key words: Hymenoptera, Chrysididae, new species, Sardinia, identification key, type material

Introduction

The family Chrysididae contains some 5,000 named species worldwide (Kimsey & Bohart 1990) but the taxonomy of the family in some biogeographical regions, especially the Afrotropical and the Oriental ones, is presently unsatisfactory and confused. Several new species are to be discovered and several synonymies to be established when review studies of the material presently dispersed in many collections will become possible. The Mediterranean Chrysididae fauna is reasonably well known and particularly rich (Linsenmaier 1999; Strumia & Yildirim 2007), despite it being a largely anthropized and overpopulated region.

The genus *Trichrysis* Lichtenstein, 1876 was recently critically reviewed and reevaluated by Kimsey and Bohart (1990: 568) in their world review of the family: “*Trichrysis* has frequently confused with other genera, some of whose species may have a tridentate TIII”. Bohart (1987) published a key for the identification of the known *Trichrysis* species. *Trichrysis* includes about 26 species, mostly Afrotropical and Oriental (10 in the Oriental region and 7 in the Afrotropical region). Only three species were previously recorded from the Mediterranean region: *T. cyanea* (Linnaeus, 1758), *T. lacerta* (Semenov-Tyan-Shanskii & Nikolskaya, 1954) and *T. scioensis* Gribodo, 1879.

Trichrysis cyanea is widespread in the Palaearctic region, *T. lacerta* is known from Greece, Cyprus, Turkey, the Caucasus and Egypt, whereas *T. scioensis* Gribodo, 1879 is an Afrotropical species reaching also Egypt and Palestine (Linsenmaier 1999). *Trichrysis cypria* (Mocsáry, 1902) from Cyprus is a synonym of *T. lacerta*. Linsenmaier (1959: 170) found that the name *Chrysis cypria* Mocsáry, 1902 was preoccupied by *Chrysis pyrrhina cypria* Buysson, 1897 from Cyprus (Buysson 1897: 555, pl. 19, fig. 11), and renamed the species as *C. devia*. More recently, Linsenmaier (1968) discovered that the same species had been previously described by Semenov-Tyan-Shanskii and Nikolskaya (1954: 122) as *C. lacerta* (thus *lacerta* is the valid name, *devia* and *cypria* are synonyms: Linsenmaier 1999: 227).

In the material recently collected during the projects UE Interreg IIa and IIIa (Strumia *et al.* 2006, 2007a, 2007b) in northern Sardinia (Italy), I found a new species of *Trichrysis*, the description of which is the goal of this paper.