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Article



Revision of the genus Omalaspis Giraud, 1860 (Hym.: Figitidae: Aspicerinae)

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Abstract

Omalaspis Giraud, 1860, is a genus of Aspicerinae (Hymenoptera: Cynipoidea: Figitidae) with a Holarctic distribution. The diagnostic characters that differentiate *Omalaspis* from morphologically similar genera are described. From the thirteen known species of *Omalaspis* only *O. cavroi* (Hedicke, 1914), *O. latreillii* (Hartig, 1840), *O. norica* Giraud, 1860 and *O. orientalis* Belizin, 1968 are valid species. All these species are redescribed. *Omalaspis nigra* (Hartig, 1840) and *O. abnormis* (Kieffer, 1901) are synonymized with *O. norica*, and *O. ruficornis* Thomson, 1877 is synonymized with *O. latreilli*. *Omalaspis laevis* Hedicke, 1914 belongs to *Xyalaspis, O. davydovi* Belizin, 1927 is considered as *'incertae sedis'* and *O. carinata* (Kieffer 1901) 'species dubia'. Three species are considered as species inquirenda: Omalaspis femoralis Ionescu, 1963 (which belongs to Diapriidae), *O. convexa* Kierych, 1985 and *O. sulcata* (Kieffer, 1901). Six new species are described: *O. asiatica* Ros-Farré & Pujade-Villar **n. sp.**, *O. brandaoi* Pujade-Villar **k.** Ros-Farré **k** Pujade-Villar **n. sp.**, *O. gibsoni* Ros-Farré **k** Pujade-Villar **n. sp.**, *O. niponica* Ros-Farré & Pujade-Villar **n. sp.** the diagnostic characters of all species are illustrated and a key to differentiate them is given. A new character is defined here exclusive to *Omalaspis* within the Aspicerinae, the supratorular impression.

Key words: Hymenoptera, Figitidae, Aspicerinae, Omalaspis, revision, new species, new combination

Introduction

The Figitidae includes 11 subfamilies (Ros-Farré & Pujade-Villar, 2007; Buffington & Liljeblad, 2008): Parnipinae, Thrasorinae, Charipinae, Figitinae, Anacharitinae, Emarginae, Pycnostigminae, Eucoilinae, Plectocynipinae, Euceroptrinae and Aspicerinae. The Aspicerinae is a monophyletic subfamily, supported by several morphological features (Ros-Farré et al., 2000), including the facial impression and the distinctly saddle-shaped third abdominal tergum. The subfamily Aspicerinae has a Holarctic distribution, their biology is still weakly known. According to Ros-Farré (2007), eight genera are included in Aspicerinae: *Balna* Cameron, *Prosaspicera* Kieffer, *Aspicera* Dahlbom, *Paraspicera* Kieffer, *Anacharoides* Cameron, *Omalaspis* Giraud *Callaspidia* Dahlbom and *Pujadella* Ros-Farré; morphological differences between these genera are described in Ros-Farré (2007). Several studies have been made to address the taxonomic chaos within aspicerines and the limited knowledge of their biodiversity. *Prosaspicera* was revised by Ros-Farré & Pujade-Villar (2007), *Anacharoides* by Buffington & Van Noort (2009), *Callaspidia* by Ros-Farré & Pujade-Villar (2009), *Balna* by Ros-Farré & Pujade-Villar (2010); *Pujadella* is a genus recently described by Ros-Farré (2007) and *Paraspicera* has recently been revised (Ros-Farré & Pujade-Villar, *in press*). *Aspicera* is currently under study and its revision will be published very soon (Ros-Farré & Pujade-Villar, *in prep*.). In this work we present the revision of *Omalaspis*.

Omalaspis is a poorly known genus that includes 13 nominal species: Omalaspis abnormis (Kieffer 1901); O. carinata (Kieffer 1901); O. cavroi (Hedicke 1914); O. convexa Kierych, 1985; O. davydovi Belizin, 1927; O. femoralis Ionescu, 1963; O. laevis Hedicke, 1914; O. latreillii (Hartig, 1840); O. nigra (Hartig, 1840); O. norica Giraud 1860; O. orientalis Belizin 1968; O. ruficornis Thomson, 1877 and O. sulcata (Kieffer, 1901). Some species previously included in this genus were moved to other genera by other authors: Omalaspis biusta Cameron, 1879 was synonymized with Melanips sylvanus Giraud, 1860 by Cameron (1890: 174), Omalaspis floridanus Ash-