

A review of the Romanian *Halticoptera* Spinola (Hymenoptera: Chalcidoidea, Pteromalidae), with description of three new species

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Abstract

The Romanian species of *Halticoptera* Spinola (Hymenoptera: Chalcidoidea, Pteromalidae) are reviewed. The species *Halticoptera askewi*, *H. andriescui* and *H. semireticulata* are described as new. *Halticoptera dimidiata* (Förster) and *H. patellana* (Dalman) are new to Romania. A key to the eleven Romanian species of *Halticoptera* is given.

Key words: Hymenoptera, Chalcidoidea, Pteromalidae, *Halticoptera*, Romania, *Halticoptera askewi* sp. n., *H. andriescui* sp. n., *H. semireticulata* sp. n., key

Introduction

The species of the genus *Halticoptera* are known as parasitoids of mining Diptera (Agromyzidae, Drosophilidae, Tephritidae) associated with herbaceous plants or ferns (Bouček & Rasplus 1991).

Graham (1969) recognizes twelve species of *Halticoptera* from north-western Europe. He treats *Miscogaster crius* Walker as a new synonym for *H. circulus* (Walker) and considers that *H. smaragdina* (Curtis) "may be [*Diplolepis*] *flavicornis* Spinola, as Thomson thought" (p. 159). Askew (1972) described two new species, removed *M. crius* from synonymy and included *H. crius* (Walker) in his key to British species of *Halticoptera* allied to *H. circulus*. Graham (1972) described another two new species of *Halticoptera* from Britain and Czechoslovakia. Hedqvist (1974) published a key to fifteen Swedish species of *Halticoptera* including a new species and all previously known species excepting *H. mustela* (Walker). He preferred using *H. flavicornis* (Spinola) instead of *H. smaragdina* (Curtis). Noyes (2003) treats both *H. flavicornis* and *H. smaragdina* as valid.

In Romania the pteromalids are still poorly known. Previously only five species of *Halticoptera* were known from this country (Erdös 1947, Andriescu 1996, Andriescu & Mitroiu 2001).