

The Brazilian *Holepyris* (Hymenoptera, Bethyridae), with description of a new species from Amazonian forest

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Abstract

The Brazilian fauna of *Holepyris* is investigated. *H. eminentus* **sp. nov.** from Amazonian rain forest is described and illustrated. It is recognized by having large and bulging eyes. New geographic records and taxonomic variation data for *H. coriaceus* Evans, 1977; *H. micidus* Evans, 1977; *H. subtilis* Evans, 1977; *H. tenuis* Evans, 1977; and *H. turrialbae* Evans, 1977 are provided. A key to Brazilian species is presented.

Key words: Taxonomy, Hymenoptera, Bethyridae, *Holepyris*, Neotropical region, Amazonian forest

Introduction

The genus *Holepyris* is most sharply characterized by having slender mandibles with one to five (but usually two) apical teeth; clypeus strongly trilobate, with the lateral lobes usually wider than the median one; pronotum much longer than mesoscutum, and with a transverse carina margining the disc anteriorly; notauli very thin, subparallel, and usually incomplete; scutellum with a transverse groove at base, the groove curved backward but not expanded on the sides; propodeal disc subquadrate (Evans, 1964;1977).

A number of species attacks pest insects such as beetles (*Silvanus surinamensis*) and moths (*Ephestia elutella*) and are of potential value in biological control (Evans, 1977).

Holepyris Kieffer, 1905 is a genus of nearly worldwide distribution, being absent only from cool temperate and arctic regions and from many oceanic islands (Evans, 1977). There are 119 species of *Holepyris* around the world (Evans, 1977; Gordh *et al.*, 1990; Terayama, 1999; Xu *et al.*, 2003), most known from the Northern Hemisphere. Until now only three species of *Holepyris* have been found in Brazil, recorded from the southern states of Paraná and Santa Catarina.