



A new genus of Lysitermini (Hymenoptera: Braconidae: Lysiterminae) from Madagascar and its taxonomic placement based on 28S rDNA sequence data

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Abstract

A new genus and species of Lysitermini, *Atritermus pedestris* Belokobylskij, Zaldivar-Riverón & Quicke, are described from Madagascar. The taxonomic placement of the new genus within Lysiterminae is discussed based on a phylogenetic analysis using 28S rDNA gene sequences. A key to world genera of Lysitermini is provided.

Resumen

Un nuevo género y especie de Lysitermini, *Atritermus pedestris* Belokobylskij, Zaldivar-Riverón & Quicke, son descritos para Madagascar. La ubicación taxonómica del nuevo género dentro de Lysiterminae es discutida con base en un análisis filogenético usando secuencias del gen ribosomal 28S. Se presenta una clave para los géneros de Lysitermini del mundo.

Key words: Hymenoptera, phylogeny, taxonomy, Africa, Bayesian analysis

Introduction

Lysiterminae represents a small group of cyclostome braconid wasps with an apparent worldwide distribution, though they seem to be especially diverse in the Afrotropical and Oriental regions (van Achterberg 1995, 2000; Papp & van Achterberg 1999; Belokobylskij 1990, 1995a, 1999a, 1999b, 2004; Belokobylskij & Quicke 1999). Van Achterberg (1993, 1995) and Zaldivar-Riverón *et al.* (2006) have considered Lysiterminae as a subfamily on its own, but the subfamily has suffered a number of different rearrangements in both its taxonomic status and composition. For instance, some authors have placed Lysiterminae as a tribe of Rogadinae (e.g. van Achterberg 1991) or Exothecinae (e.g. Belokobylskij 1990, 1995a, 1999a, 1999b), while others have considered lysitermines as members of Hormiini within Rogadinae (Wharton 1993). Moreover, a phylogenetic analysis based on morphological and life history features failed to recover the relationships of lysitermines (as composed of *Lysitermus* Foerster, *Acanthormius* Ashmead, and *Pentatermus* Hedqvist) with respect to the other cyclostome taxa included (Whitfield 1992).