



Redescription and placement of the Oriental *Scaphepyris rufus* Kieffer (Hymenoptera: Bethylidae)

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Abstract

The Sclerodermini (Bethylidae: Epyrinae) genus *Scaphepyris* Kieffer and its single species, *S. rufus* Kieffer, are known only from Indonesia, and are revised. The genus is characterized by having the clypeus produced medially with the apical margin subangulate, the mesopleuron with a large, long upper groove, the ocelli and wings absent, the mid tibiae strongly spinose, the eyes extremely reduced, and a constriction between the propodeum and the mesonotum. These two latter conditions place it in Pristocerinae. A key for the Pristocerinae genera where females are known is provided.

Key words: Pristocerinae; Epyrinae; Sclerodermini

Introduction

Scaphepyris was proposed by Kieffer (1905) and placed in subfamily Bethylinae (now Bethylidae), which was considered to belong to Proctotrypidae (now Proctotrupidae) at that time.

Kieffer (1914) established the family Bethylidae for what is considered now to be Bethylidae, Dryinidae, Embolemidae and Sclerogibbidae together. He also established five tribes in Bethylinae, namely Pristocerini, Mesitiini, Bethylini, Epyrini, and Sclerodermini. He placed *Scaphepyris* on the latter tribe.

Berland (1928) raised Bethylidae to superfamily rank and, thus, the five tribes established by Kieffer (1905) were raised to subfamily. When Evans (1964) revised the American Bethylidae he split Sclerodermini (*sensu* Berland) into two tribes (Sclerodermini and Cephalonomiini) and transferred them to Epyrinae, even though he had never studied some genera from the Old World. Subsequent authors have treated the Indonesian genus *Scaphepyris* as Sclerodermini.

Terayama (1995) proposed a phylogeny for the Sclerodermini, but he excluded *Scaphepyris*, because he was not able to find the holotype. According to him, the holotype was presumably lost during the World Wars. But recently while making a cladistic analysis of Sclerodermini we were able to find the holotype of *Scaphepyris* deposited at Museo Cívico di Storia Naturale Giacomo Doria, and we verified that this genus belongs to Pristocerinae.

Material and methods

The examined material was borrowed from Museo Cívico di Storia Naturale Giacomo Doria, Genova, Italy by Roberto Poggi (MCSN).

The measurements and indices used in this study are as follow: LH, head length, measured in dorsal view,