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**Palaeartic oak gallwasps galling oaks (*Quercus*) in the section *Cerris*:
re-appraisal of generic limits, with descriptions of new genera and species
(Hymenoptera: Cynipidae: Cynipini)**

GEORGE MELIKA^{1,8}, JULI PUJADE-VILLAR², YOSHIHISA ABE³, CHANG-TI TANG⁴,
JAMES NICHOLLS⁵, NAKATADA WACHI³, TATSUYA IDE³, MAN-MIAO YANG⁴, ZSOLT PÉNZES⁶,
GYÖRGY CSÓKA⁷ & GRAHAM N. STONE⁵

¹ Pest Diagnostic Laboratory, Plant Protection & Soil Conservation Directorate of County Vas, Ambrozy setany 2, 9762 Tanakajd Hungary. E-mail: melikageorge@gmail.com

² Universitat de Barcelona, Facultat de Biologia, Departament de Biologia Animal, Avda. Diagonal 645, 08028-Barcelona Spain. E-mail: jpujade@ub.edu

³ Biosystematics Laboratory, Graduate School of Social and Cultural Studies, Kyushu University, Motooka, Fukuoka 819-0395, Japan. E-mail: y_abe@scs.kyushu-u.ac.jp for Yoshihisa Abe; 3sl07066m@sls.kyushu-u.ac.jp for Nakatada Wachi and 2cs09033g@s.kyushu-u.ac.jp for Tatsuya Ide.

⁴ Department of Entomology, National Chung Hsing University, Taichung, 40227 Taiwan. E-mails: cynipidsman@gmail.com for Chang-Ti Tang; mmyang@nchu.edu.tw for Man-Miao Yang

⁵ Institute of Evolutionary Biology, University of Edinburgh, King's Buildings, West Mains Road, Edinburgh EH9 3JT, Scotland, U.K. E-mails: graham.stone@ed.ac.uk for Graham N. Stone; james.nicholls@ed.ac.uk for James Nicholls

⁶ Institute of Genetics, Biological Research Centre of Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Szeged, Hungary, Department of Ecology, Szeged University, Szeged, Hungary. E-mail: penzes@bio.u-szeged.hu

⁷ Department of Forest Protection, Forest Research Institute, 3232 Mátrafüred, P.O.Box 2, Hungary. E-mail: csokagy@erti.hu

⁸ corresponding author



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Abstract

We discuss the taxonomy of oak gallwasps (Hymenoptera: Cynipidae: Cynipini) whose lifecycle involves only Palaearctic oaks (*Quercus* subgen. *Quercus*) in the section Cerris. Recent phylogenetic reconstructions support a deep split between such Cerris-associated species in the genera *Aphelonyx*, *Dryocosmus*, *Plagiotrochus*, *Neuroterus*, *Pseudoneuroterus* and species and genera associated with oaks in the section *Quercus sensu stricto*. We reappraise the generic limits of the Cerris-associated genera, proposing new limits for *Dryocosmus*, *Pseudoneuroterus* and *Neuroterus*, establishing a new genus *Cerroneuroterus*, elevating *Latuspina* to a genus level, reestablishing the genera *Chilaspis* and *Trichagalma* and proposed new species name combinations. We provide a new key to oak gallwasp genera of the Palaearctic and keys to all species of genera associated with Cerris section oaks. We describe five new species, *Aphelonyx kordestanica*, *Trichagalma formosana*, *Dryocosmus jungalii*, *Pseudoneuroterus mazandarani*, and *P. nichollsi*.

Key words: Cynipidae, Cynipini, oak gallwasp, plesiomorphic lineage, taxonomy, Palaearctic

Introduction

Gallwasps (Cynipidae) are distributed mainly in the temperate zone of the northern hemisphere. Within this family, the oak gallwasps (Cynipini) are by far the most species-rich group of wasps, with *c.* 1000 species in 25 genera worldwide (Csóka *et al.* 2005; Melika 2006a; Stone *et al.* 2007; Abe *et al.* 2007). The Western Palaearctic is represented by 139 species in 10 genera (Stone *et al.* 2007) and only 34 valid species are known from the Eastern Palaearctic (Abe *et al.* 2007).