



The first record of the genus *Uncobracon* Papp from China (Hymenoptera: Braconidae)

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Abstract

The small genus *Uncobracon* Papp, 1996 (Hymenoptera: Braconidae: Braconinae), and *Uncobracon pappi* (Tobias, 2000) **comb. nov.**, are recorded and illustrated from China for the first time. *Uncobracon pappi* was reared from a borer in the branch of *Hippophae rhamnoides* Linnaeus ssp. *sinensis* Rousi. A key to species of the genus *Uncobracon* is included.

Key words: Hymenoptera, Braconidae, new record, parasitoids, China

Introduction

The genus *Uncobracon* Papp, 1966 (Hymenoptera: Braconidae: Braconinae) is a small taxon containing three species: the type species *Bracon apoderi* Watanabe, 1933, from Japan and two species from Far East Russia, *B. tricoloratus* Tobias, 2000, and *B. pappi* Tobias, 2000. In the key by Tobias & Belokobylskij (2000) the genus *Uncobracon* Papp was downgraded to a subgenus of the huge genus *Bracon* Fabricius, 1804. This is not accepted in this paper because there has been no phylogenetic analysis of the genus *Bracon* including the genus *Uncobracon* and its phylogenetic position is uncertain. This aberrant genus can be readily distinguished from all its congeners by the hook-like process directed anteriorly near the base of the mandible. In addition the propodeum has a medio-longitudinal carina, the second metasomal tergite is foveolate-rugose, the 3rd-6th tergites have discrete and separate punctures, with interspaces smooth (Papp 1996). Watanabe (1933) reported that *U. apoderi* was found as a parasitoid of the larva of *Apoderus balteatus* Roelofs (Coleoptera: Attelabidae). The host of both other species is still unknown. Recently, *U. pappi* (Tobias) was reared by the second author from a cocoon found in a larval tunnel of *Asias halodendri* (Pallas, 1776) (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) in Ningxia and it represents the first record of the species from China.

Material and methods

Morphological terminology follows van Achterberg (1993) and Papp (1996). Most descriptions, measurements and photographs were made with a Nikon Stereoscopic Zoom Microscope SMZ1500 equipped with a digital camera coupled with an Image AutoMontage software (CombineZM software).

Key to species of the genus *Uncobracon* Papp

(after Tobias & Belokobylskij, 2000)

1. Propodeum smooth, except for a strong medio-longitudinal carina; head and mesosoma black; metasoma reddish yellow; first tergite black, second tergite fuscous, third-fifth tergites with each a longitudinal yellowish line medially and a large discal spot