



Article

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Records and descriptions of some Aphelinidae (Hymenoptera: Chalcidoidea) from India

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Abstract

Two new species, *Centrodora flemingiae* Hayat, **sp. nov.** and *Proaphelinoides assamensis* Hayat, **sp. nov.** (Hymenoptera: Aphelinidae), are described. The latter species is described for an Indian specimen earlier misidentified as *P. australis* Girault. Also, the following five species are recorded: *Coccophagus fumadus* Hayat, *C. longifasciatus* Howard, *C. zebratus* Howard, *Eriaphytis chackoi* Subba Rao and *Paraphytis transversa* (Huang). *Coccophagus zebratus* and *Paraphytis transversa* are redescribed because these two species are newly recorded from India.

Keywords: *Centrodora*, *Coccophagus*, *Eriaphytis*, *Paraphytis*, *Proaphelinoides*, new records, new species

Introduction

During a recent survey in the Indian States of Karnataka, Kerala and Mahe on the west coast of India, a part of the Union Territory of Puducherry (formerly Pondicherry), a large number of Aphelinidae, in addition to other families of Chalcidoidea, were collected. This paper records five known species, two of which are newly recorded from India. The specimens of a species of *Centrodora* Förster received from Dr. V.V. Ramamurthy of the Division of Entomology, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, proved to belong to an undescribed species and is described here. I have taken this opportunity to describe as new a species of *Proaphelinoides* Girault for a specimen which was earlier misidentified as *P. australis* Girault by Hayat & Zeya (1993). The two newly recorded species, *Coccophagus zebratus* Howard and *Paraphytis transversa* (Huang), are redescribed based on the Indian material.

Methods

The terminology given by Hayat (1998) is followed, except for the use of the terms mesosoma for thorax plus propodeum and metasoma for petiole plus gaster. Only body lengths are given in millimetres; all other measurements are relative and taken directly from the divisions of a linear scale of a micrometer placed in the eye piece of a compound microscope. Except for *Proaphelinoides assamensis*, the body lengths and colour given for species were noted from the specimens on cards prior to mounting these on slides.

The following abbreviations are used in the text: F1, F2, F3 = Funicle segments 1, 2 and 3; TI, TII, etc. = Gastral tergites 1, 2, etc.

The following acronyms are used for the depositories:

BMNH—The Natural History Museum, London, England.

NBAII—National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Insects, Bengaluru, India.

NPC—National Pusa Collection, Division of Entomology, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, India.