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## Description of a new species of *Aclastus* Förster (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae: Cryptinae) from the Peruvian Andes, with dimorphic females

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### Abstract

The aim of this paper is to describe and illustrate a new species of *Aclastus* with dimorphic females and to provide the diagnostic characters to distinguish it from Holarctic species of the genus. In addition, we provide data on the habitat and phenology of the species.

**Key words:** *Aclastus*, parasitoid, dimorphic female, brachypterous, Neotropical, high altitude

### Introduction

*Aclastus* Förster is a moderately large genus of almost worldwide distribution but not yet recorded from the Afrotropical region. The genus is best represented in temperate regions and comprises 19 described species, eleven of which are Palearctic, three Nearctic, four Holarctic and one Palearctic and Oriental (Yu *et al.* 2012). Gauld (1984) reported eight undescribed species from Australia, and Porter (1997) mentioned the genus without data of species and localities from the Neantarctic Region (temperate Chilean part of the Neotropical region). In the tropics the species are mostly distributed at high altitudes where the climate is moist and cold.

Females of two species are brachypterous (Ashmead 1899; Horstmann 1993): *A. nigrinus* (Ashmead) from Northwest Siberia and Alaska, and *A. glabriventris* Horstmann from Madeira; however, no species with dimorphic females have been described.

*Aclastus* belongs to the Hemitelina subtribe, a higher-level classification proposed by Townes (1970), which has long been suspected to be highly artificial. Actually, recent phylogenetic studies based on 28S rDNA did not provide any conclusive phylogenetic position of the genus relative to other genera of Cryptinae (Laurenne *et al.* 2006; Quicke *et al.* 2009).

*Aclastus* species are idiobiont solitary parasitoids of spider eggs sacs of the families Linyphiidae (Wingerden 1973, Horstmann 1980, Finch 2005) and Amaurobiidae (Schwarz 2000).

The aim of this paper is to describe and illustrate a new species with dimorphic females and to provide diagnostic characters that distinguish it from other Neotropical species of the genus. In addition, we provide data on habitat and phenology of the new species.

### Material and methods

Specimens were collected in El Ingenio (Huancayo province, department of Junin) at an altitude of 3,465–3,510 masl in Peru. This area is part of the Mantaro river valley in the Central Andes and has an unimodal rainfall regime,