

Glyptoblacus gen. nov. (Hymenoptera: Braconidae: Blacinae) from Honduras

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Key words: Hymenoptera; Braconidae; Blacinae; *Glyptoblacus*; Neotropical; Honduras; key.

The new genus *Glyptoblacus* from Honduras (type species: *Glyptoblacus cavei* spec. nov.) is described and illustrated.

Introduction

The genera of the subfamily Blacinae Foerster, 1862, of the family Braconidae Nees, 1812) were recently revised by van Achterberg (1988). Among material from Honduras Dr R.D. Cave (Tegucigalpa) recognized some Blacinae as belonging to a new genus during a workshop at the Universidad de Costa Rica at San José (Costa Rica) this year. The new genus belongs to the tribe Blacozonini van Achterberg, 1988, because it shares the minute medio-ventral protuberance of the clypeus, the hind tibia distinctly narrowed subbasally (fig. 6), the presence of vein CU1b of fore wing, the weakly oblique vein 3-CU1 of fore wing, and the anterior subalar depression crenulate. Only the first two characters are a synapomorphy for the tribe (van Achterberg, 1988). The small tribe Blacozonini is only known from the Neotropical region. The new genus is characterized by the sculptured frons, the convex scutellum and the banded fore wings, characters unique in the Blacinae. The biology of the new genus is unknown, but other Blacinae are endoparasites of larvae of Coleoptera.

For the recognition of the subfamily Blacinae, see van Achterberg, 1990, 1993, and for the terminology used in this paper, see van Achterberg, 1988.

Descriptions

Glyptoblacus gen. nov.

(figs 1-11)

Type species: *Glyptoblacus cavei* spec. nov.

Etymology.— From “glyptos” (Greek for “carved”) and the generic name *Blacus* Nees, 1818, because it has a sculptured head and it is superficially similar to *Blacus*. Gender: masculine.

Diagnosis.— Antennal segments about 38, third antennal segment as long as fourth segment (fig. 2); eyes glabrous; frons sculptured and flat (fig. 7); ventral margin of clypeus slightly sinuate, because of minute medio-ventral protuberance (fig. 7); occipital carina complete; occipital flange oblique, hardly protruding (fig. 9); pronope present (fig. 5); anterior subalar depression crenulate (fig. 9); precoxal sulcus absent (fig. 9); lateral carina of scutellum absent; scutellum strongly convex

(fig. 9); propodeum with indistinct medial area (fig. 5) and no tubercles (fig. 9); anterior part of propodeum not well differentiated from posterior part (fig. 9), parts subequal; veins CU1b and 2-R1 of fore wing present; fore wing banded (fig. 1); vein 3-CU1 of fore wing weakly oblique; hind tibia distinctly narrowed subbasally and apically (fig. 6); first metasomal tergite distinctly widened posteriorly and not constricted behind spiracles (fig. 8); laterope rather deep and large (fig. 9); second tergite flat and smooth; second metasomal suture absent; length of ovipositor sheath about 0.9 times fore wing; length of fore wing 4-5 mm.

Biology.— Unknown.

Distribution.— Neotropical (only type species known).

Note.— The key by van Achterberg (1988) has to be changed as follows to accommodate the new genus:

4. Remove ...“frons distinctly concave (figs 56, 87);”
- Remove ...“frons flat or slightly concave (figs 104, 399);”
5. Remove ...“third antennal segment as long as fourth segment (fig. 71);”
- Remove ...“third antennal segment shorter than fourth segment (fig. 60);”
- and change last line in “..... 5a”
- 5a. Frons flat and densely rugulose (figs 4, 7); precoxal sulcus absent, area smooth (fig. 9); third antennal segment about as long as fourth segment (fig. 2); fore wing banded (fig. 1); scutellum strongly protruding (fig. 9); laterope large, deep (fig. 5) *Glyptoblacus* gen. nov.
- Frons concave and smooth (figs 56, 87 in van Achterberg, 1988); precoxal sulcus coarsely punctate; third antennal shorter than fourth segment (fig. 60 l.c.); fore wing subhyaline; scutellum slightly convex (fig. 63 l.c.); laterope medium-sized and comparatively shallow (figs 63, 84 l.c.) *Blacozona* van Achterberg, 1976

Glyptoblacus cavei spec. nov.
(figs 1-11)

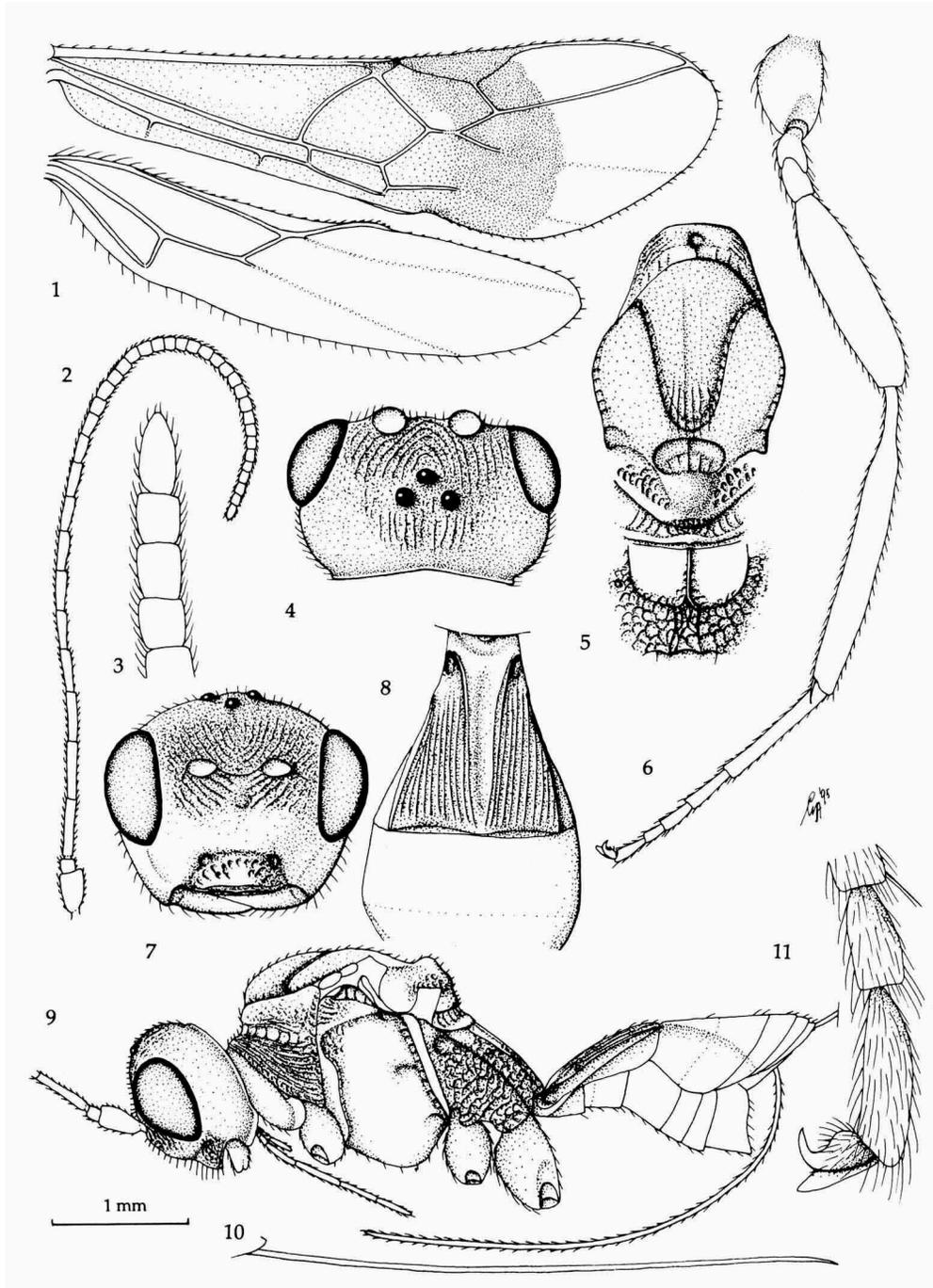
Material.— Holotype, ♀ (RMNH), “Honduras: Cortes, Cofradia, Buenos Aires, 5.x.1994, rcol. R. Cordeiro”. Paratypes: 2 ♀ ♀ (Collection of R.D. Cave; RMNH); topotypic, same date.

Holotype, ♀, length of body 4.8 mm, of fore wing 4.8 mm; head, mesosoma (except mesopleuron) and legs densely whitish setose.

Head.— Antennal segments 38, length of third, fourth and penultimate segments 5.3, 5.2 and 1.1 times their width, respectively (figs 2, 3); length of maxillary palp 1.3 times height of head; frons coriaceous and largely rugulose (fig. 4); OOL:diameter of posterior ocellus:POL = 20:7:12; length of eye in dorsal view 1.3 times temple (fig. 4); face rugose medio-dorsally, and remainder smooth or nearly so (fig. 7); malar suture nearly absent, only slightly impressed (fig. 7); length of malar space 1.2 times basal width of mandible

Mesosoma.— Length of mesosoma 1.5 times its height; side of pronotum largely rugose-striate (fig. 9); mesopleuron smooth, except for some sculpture antero-dorsally (fig. 9); notauli complete, rather deep, crenulate and posteriorly rugose (fig. 5); mesoscutal lobes rather flat, distinctly punctate; scutellum largely smooth; surface of propodeum largely smooth anteriorly and coarsely reticulate posteriorly (fig. 5), its medial area submerged into sculpture.

Wings.— Fore wing: first discal cell sessile (fig. 1); 1-CU1:2-CU1 = 3:28;



Figs 1-11, *Glyptoblacus cavei* gen. nov. & spec. nov., ♀, holotype. 1, wings; 2, antenna; 3, apex of antenna; 4, head, dorsal aspect; 5, mesosoma, dorsal aspect; 6, hind leg; 7, head, frontal aspect; 8, first and second metasomal tergites, dorsal aspect; 9, habitus, lateral aspect; 10, ovipositor; 11, inner hind claw. 1, 2, 6, 9, 10: 1 × scale-line; 3, 11: 5 ×; 4, 7, 8: 1.6 ×; 5: 1.3 ×.

parastigma medium-sized (fig. 1); SR1 straight; $r:3\text{-SR}+\text{SR1}:2\text{-SR} = 7:39:8$.

Legs.— Hind coxa sparsely punctate; length of femur, tibia and basitarsus of hind leg 4.2, 10.0, and 8.7 times their width, respectively.

Metasoma.— Length of first tergite 1.1 times its apical width, its surface longitudinally striate, its dorsal carinae complete, but posteriorly similar to striation (fig. 8); length of ovipositor sheath 0.93 times fore wing.

Colour.— Mainly black; base of vein C+SC+R of fore wing, scapus, and coxae white; 14th-16th antennal segments, base of hind trochanter, and of all tibiae ivory; apex of fore femur, apices of tibiae, tarsi, and first-third antennal segments brown; remainder of antenna and of legs, palpi, ovipositor sheath, pterostigma, parastigma, and most veins dark brown or blackish; apical fifth of fore wing, basal cell of fore wing, and hind wing largely subhyaline; remainder of fore wing dark brown, with darkest part below pterostigma (fig. 1).

Variation.— Length of fore wing 4.3-4.8 mm, and of body 4.7-4.8 mm; antenna of ♀ with 3 or 4 ivory segments; dominant colour of body dark brown or black; length of ovipositor sheath 0.88-0.93 times fore wing.

Acknowledgements and abbreviations

I wish to express my gratitude to Dr R.D. Cave (Tegucigalpa) for allowing me to describe this interesting genus of Blacinae and for the gift of the specimens. RMNH stands for Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum, Leiden.

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