

ZOOLOGISCHE MEDEDELINGEN

UITGEGEVEN DOOR HET

RIJKSMUSEUM VAN NATUURLIJKE HISTORIE TE LEIDEN

(MINISTERIE VAN CULTUUR, RECREATIE EN MAATSCHAPPELIJK WERK)

Deel 44 no. 10

29 december 1969

A NEW SUBSPECIES OF *CERCERIS SABULOSA* (PANZER, 1799) (HYMENOPTERA, SPHECIDAE) FROM CORSICA

by

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Whilst engaged in revising the Aethiopian species of *Cerceris* Latreille, 1802, the author had pleasure in identifying a small collection belonging to the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, kindly submitted to him by Dr. M. A. Lieftinck. This collection comprised specimens collected in Aethiopian territories, North Africa and Corsica, the North African and Corsican species having been personally collected by Dr. Lieftinck. A subsequent study of the Corsican material led to the discovery of an apparent new subspecies of *Cerceris sabulosa* (Panzer, 1799) (Philanthinae, tribe Cercerini) and it is fitting that Dr. Lieftinck is honoured here with this subspecific discovery.

Cerceris sabulosa lieftincki subsp. nov.

Female: 11 mm long. In coloration very much the same as that of the nominal subspecies, *Cerceris sabulosa sabulosa* (Panzer, 1799); except that the fourth tergite is completely black and the yellow markings on the sternites are confined to very small lateral maculae on the second and large lateral areas of the third sternite, similar to that of *Cerceris sabulosa algerica* (Thunberg, 1815). The flagellum is blackish with faint traces of dark ferruginous on the underside. The propodeum is without lateral yellow maculae.

Structurally, especially the clypeal and pygidial shapes and proportions, *C.s. lieftincki* is the same as the nominal subspecies, but there is a marked difference in the puncturation, sufficient to separate *C.s. lieftincki* subspecifically from *Cerceris s. sabulosa* (Panzer), and *Cerceris sabulosa algerica*

(Thunberg). The differences lie in the formation of the punctures on the tergites, as follows: the punctures on the second tergite follow the same reticulate pattern of *C.s. sabulosa*, but are distinctly larger and placed slightly further apart, the interspaces clearly visible, thus giving this tergite extra lustre; the punctures on tergites three to five, unlike the close reticulate puncturation of the nominal subspecies and *C.s. algerica*, are progressively placed further and further apart, somewhat shallower — hence the surfaces of these tergites are clearly shinier than the other two subspecies. The general puncturation of the nominal subspecies is closely and finely reticulate-punctate, the tergal surface somewhat dull, whereas the punctures on the tergites of *C.s. lieftincki* are clearly scattered, more so on the fourth and fifth tergites, the interspaces on the black fourth tergite at times equalling the size of the punctures themselves and the punctures on the fifth tergite are much shallower than those of the other two subspecies. The saeptum (the triangular-shaped enclosure on the propodeal dorsum) is similar to that of *C.s. sabulosa*, as dull, but not as shiny as that of *C. sabulosa algerica*. The rest of the body puncturation is as the other two subspecies.

There are five coarse spiniferous serrations on the outer edge of each posterior tibia (both *C.s. sabulosa* and *C. sabulosa algerica* have six).

Male: 8-10 mm long. As female in coloration. The fourth tergite is entirely black and in one of the paratypes the fifth tergite is almost devoid of a yellow apical band. The sternital yellow markings are similar to the female. The flagellum is darker than the female, somewhat blackish, except for faint tinges of dark ferruginous on the basal underside.

Characteristic of subspecific males of this genus there is hardly any noticeable structural difference between the males of *C.s. lieftincki* and the males of the other two subspecies; but there are slight differences, not as pronounced as the female, in the puncturation of the tergites, *C.s. lieftincki* males having slightly coarser puncturation with the punctures not being as close as those of the nominal subspecific males. The spiniferous serrations on the outer edges of the posterior tibiae number the same (five) as the males of *C.s. sabulosa* and *C. sabulosa algerica*. The shape of the petiole is similar to that of the nominal subspecies but differs slightly from males of *C. sabulosa algerica* (Thunberg); in *C.s. lieftincki* males the petiole is as long as wide, the sides moderately and evenly convex; in *C. sabulosa algerica* the petiole sides are more convex and appears to be widest in the apical half. There is no marked difference in the shape of the clypeal process of all the subspecific males of this species; the puncturation here being somewhat uniform.

Material: 1 female, 3 males. Corsica: Sartène, Evisa, May-June (M. A. Lieftinck).

Female holotype, No. 79/1, Sartène (Ortolo R.), 27.v.1967; male allotype, No. 79/2, Evisa, 5.vi.1967; male paratype, No. 79/3, Evisa, 5.vi.1967; male paratype, No. 79/4, Evisa, 5.vi.1967.

Female holotype, No. 79/1, male allotype No. 79/2 and male paratype No. 79/3 have been deposited in the Leiden Museum. Male paratype No. 79/4 is in the author's collection.