

The taxonomic position of the genus *Argamania* Papp (Hymenoptera: Braconidae)

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Achterberg, C. van. The taxonomic position of the genus *Argamania* Papp (Hymenoptera: Braconidae). Zool. Med. Leiden 65 (14), 31.vii.1991: 203-207, figs. 1-12.— ISSN 0024-0672.

Key words: Braconidae; Braconinae; *Argamania*; Palaearctic; distribution.

The genus *Argamania* Papp, 1989 is redescribed and fully illustrated. Its aberrant morphology is discussed and as a result it is transferred to the subfamily Braconinae in the tribe Argamaniini nov.

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Introduction

The genus *Argamania* Papp, 1989 was placed by Papp (1989: 53) in the subfamily Exothecinae Foerster, 1862 of the Braconidae (Hymenoptera), without providing any argument for this action. The sometimes faintly indicated occipital carina, the comparatively long vein M+CU of hind wing and the position of the metasomal spiracles (the latter character-state of *Argamania* is not mentioned by Papp) may be misleading. Many characteristics indicate that this genus is in fact an aberrant member of the subfamily Braconinae Nees, 1812 (as defined by van Achterberg, 1990). These include the following: (i) the shape of the first metasomal tergite (with its flattened lateral parts and no dorsal carinae); (ii) the absence of the dorsope; (iii) the absence of the posterior propleural flange; (iv) the absence of the prepectal carina; (v) the absence of the vein m-cu of hind wing; (vi) the absence of the lateral carina of mesoscutum; (vii) the absence of the precoxal sulcus; (viii) the propodeal spiracle situated behind middle of the propodeum (fig. 4); (ix) the modified ovipositor (the upper valve enlarged and the lower valve without teeth: fig. 6); (x) the vein 1-M of hind wing widened subbasally and much longer than vein M+CU (fig. 1); (xi) the anterior subalar depression smooth; (xii) the scapus ventrally longer than dorsally; (xiii) the somewhat enlarged labio-maxillary complex (fig. 4). Thus *Argamania* Papp is hereby transferred to the Braconinae.

Because of the position of the metasomal spiracles (of the second-seventh tergites in their epipleura: fig. 4), the enlarged upper valve of the ovipositor (fig. 6), the vein M+CU of hind wing approximately 0.5 times as long as vein 1-M (fig. 1), the antennal sockets situated near middle of level of the eyes (figs. 2, 4), the comparatively long pronotum (fig. 4), the fore wing nearly as long as hind wing (fig. 1), the occasionally, faintly indicated occipital carina laterally, the clypeus not differentiated from the face, and the anterior ocellus on frontal plane of the head (figs. 2, 4) I place this genus in a separate tribe, Argamaniini tribus nov., of the subfamily Braconinae.

For the identification of the subfamilies of Braconidae, see van Achterberg, 1990, and for the terminology used in this paper, van Achterberg, 1988.

Systematic part
Tribus Argamaniini nov.

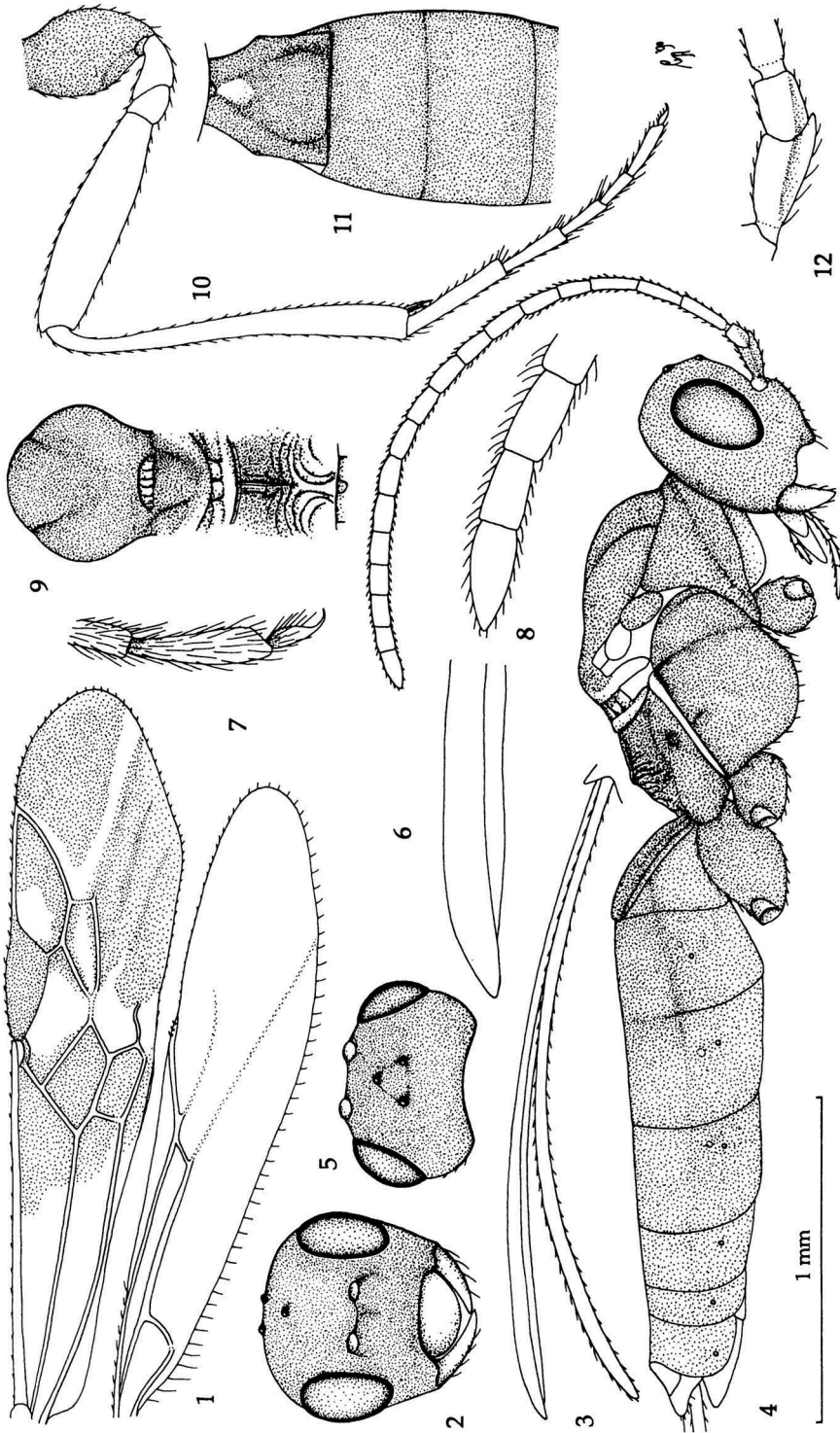
Contains only the SW. Palaearctic genus *Argamania* Papp, 1989, known from N. Africa and Israel.

Diagnosis.— Body completely granulate, with a more or less bronze metallic sheen; scapus ventrally longer than dorsally (figs. 4, 12); hypoclypeal depression large and deep; labrum glabrous and distinctly concave (fig. 2); anterior ocellus on frontal plane of head and posterior ocellus in dorsal plane of head (figs. 2, 4); occipital carina absent, at most faintly indicated laterally; mandibles comparatively elongate (fig. 2); pronotum comparatively long (fig. 4), and without pronope; anterior subalar depression smooth and narrow (fig. 4); lateral carina of mesoscutum absent; posterior propleural flange absent (fig. 4); prepectal carina and precoxal sulcus absent (fig. 4); mesosternal suture smooth and shallow; metapleural flange absent or nearly so (fig. 4); propodeal spiracle situated behind middle of propodeum; scutellar sulcus medium-sized (fig. 9); vein m-cu of hind wing absent; vein 1-M of hind wing widened and approximately twice as long as vein M+CU (fig. 1); hind wing nearly as long as fore wing; vein 1r-m of hind wing short (fig. 1); tarsi (and especially telotarsi) slender (fig. 10); fore tibia without pegs; first metasomal tergite with flattened lateral parts, with sublateral grooves, no dorsal carinae, and movably joined to second tergite; dorsope absent; second-seventh spiracles in metasomal epipleura (fig. 4); metasoma largely glabrous; ovipositor slightly curved downwards (fig. 3), its upper valve enlarged and its lower valve without teeth (fig. 6).

Argamania Papp, 1989

Argamania Papp, 1989: 53-54. Type-species (by original designation): *Argamania aereus* Papp, 1989 (examined). Gender: masculine.

Diagnosis.— Antennal segments of ♀ 16-21, of ♂ 16-18; antenna somewhat widened apically (fig. 4); scapus depressed ventrally; pedicellus rather large and cylindrical (fig. 12); apex of antenna without spine (fig. 8); maxillary and labial palpi with 5 and 3 segments, respectively (but not well visible basally); stemmaticum not differentiated (fig. 2); epistomal suture and occipital flange absent; malar suture absent; dorsal tooth of mandible much longer than the short ventral tooth; antescutal depression absent; episternal scrobe shallow; notauli only impressed anteriorly (fig. 5) and shallow; metanotum only anteriorly with median carina; propodeum with median carina anteriorly (fig. 9); propodeal spiracle small and round; angle of vein 1-SR with vein C+SC+R approximately 40° (fig. 1); vein 1-SR of fore wing rather long and continuous with vein 1-M (fig. 1); vein r issued near apical third of pterostigma; pterostigma wide (fig. 1); vein SR1 of fore wing curved; vein cu-a of fore wing far postfurcal (fig. 1); vein CU1b much shorter than 3-CU1 and strongly reclivous (fig. 1); parastigma narrow; vein m-cu of fore wing far antefurcal and converging to vein 1-M posteriorly; vein 1r-m of hind wing much shorter than vein SC+R1 (fig. 1); tarsal claws slender and without lobe (fig. 7); second metasomal suture absent, except for a faint indication (fig. 11); most of the sternites are enclosed by tergites (fig. 4); length of ovipositor sheath approximately 0.5 times fore wing; ovipositor sheath sparsely



Figs. 1-12, *Argamania aereus* Papp, ♀, holotype. 1, wings; 2, head, frontal aspect; 3, ovipositor and sheath; 4, habitus, lateral aspect; 5, head, dorsal aspect; 6, apex of ovipositor, lateral aspect; 7, outer hind claw; 8, apex of antenna; 9, mesosoma, dorsal aspect; 10, hind leg; 11, first-third tergites, dorsal aspect; 12, scapus and pedicellus, outer aspect. 1-5, 9-11: 1 × scale-line; 6-8, 12: 2.5 ×.

and rather short setose; hypopygium weakly sclerotized, medium-sized and blunt apically (fig. 4).

Distribution.— Contains only the type-species from N. Africa and Israel.

Biology.— Unknown.

Argamania aereus Papp, 1989
(figs. 1-12)

Argamania aereus Papp, 1989: 54-57, figs. 1-8.

Material.— Holotype, ♀ (Természettudományi Múzeum Allattára, Budapest), "Israel, Wadi Qelt, 10.iii.1981, Q. Argaman", "Holotypus ♀ *Argamania aereus* sp. n. Papp, 1989/ ant. 19 art.", "Hym. Typ. No. 7140, Mus. Budapest". The ten paratypes (6 ♀♀ + 4 ♂♂) have not been examined.

Holotype, ♀, length of body 3.3 mm, of fore wing 2.2 mm.

Head.— Antennal segments 19, length of third segment 1.1 times fourth segment, length of third, fourth and penultimate segments 3.3, 3.0, and 1.7 times their width, respectively (figs. 4, 8); length of maxillary palp 0.6 times height of head; length of eye in dorsal view 1.5 times temple; OOL:diameter of ocellus:POL = 7:2:6; frons flat and glabrous; vertex convex; length of malar space 0.9 times basal width of mandible.

Mesosoma.— Length of mesosoma 1.5 times its height; tegula granulate; surface of propodeum coarsely rugose medially (fig. 9).

Wings.— Fore wing: r:3-SR:SR1 = 7:16:40; 1-CU1:2-CU1 = 1:4; CU1a curved basally (fig. 1); 2-SR:3-SR:r-m = 24:16:9. Hind wing: with 3 hamuli and no distinct antero-basal bristles; marginal cell absent apically.

Legs.— Hind coxa granulate; one fore tibial spur, its length 0.3 times fore basitarsus; length of hind tibial spurs 0.2 and 0.3 times hind basitarsus.

Metasoma.— Length of first tergite 0.9 times its apical width (fig. 11); laterope absent; only second tergite with weak lateral crease; length of ovipositor sheath 0.46 times fore wing.

Colour.— Blackish with bronze sheen; second-seventh antennal segments, legs (but coxa and tarsi (except basitarsi) blackish, femora partly dark brown, middle and fore tibia subapically infuscated), and labial palp yellowish brown; humeral plate, pterostigma, most veins, and maxillary palp dark brown; fore wing with dark brown patches (fig. 1), and basally subhyaline; hind wing subhyaline.

Note.— At least some members of the paratype series have a longer second submarginal cell (fig. 6 in Papp, 1989) and/or the antenna completely dark brown.

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank Dr J. Papp (Budapest) for allowing me to redescribe the genus *Argamania* and Dr D.L.J. Quicke for his useful notes on the first draft.

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Received: 6.v.1991

Accepted: 8.v.1991

Edited: M.J.P. van Oijen