

Bitomoides gen. nov. (Hymenoptera: Braconidae: Opiinae) from Europe

C. van Achterberg

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C. van Achterberg, Afdeling Entomologie (Hymenoptera), Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum, Postbus 9517, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands (e-mail: achterberg@naturalis.nnm.nl).

Key words: Hymenoptera; Braconidae; Opiinae; *Bitomoides*; *Orientopius*; *Opius*; *Phaedrotoma*; *Microchelonus*; *Chelonus*; Palaearctic; Europe.

Bitomoides gen. nov. (type species: *Bitomus latus* Papp, 1999) is described and illustrated. In addition *Phaedrotoma recondes* spec. nov. and *Chelonus lukasi* nom. nov. are validated.

Introduction

Some new taxa used in the Braconidae part of the Fauna Europaea checklist (<http://www.faunaeur.org>) issued this year are validated in this paper. A new genus of the subfamily Opiinae Blanchard, 1845 (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) is described, which can be separated as follows:

1. Second metasomal tergite distinctly (1.3-1.5 times) longer than third tergite and bordered posteriorly by a curved second metasomal suture (fig. 9); second tergite longitudinally striate or rugose (figs 9, 12) 2
 - Second tergite about as long as third tergite and usually without a second metasomal suture; second tergite usually smooth or granulate other genera
 2. Occipital carina protruding dorsally in lateral view (figs 2, 12); dorsal carinae of first tergite united basally and medially forming a median carina (fig. 9); third tergite without sharp lateral crease (fig. 12); notauli largely present and medio-posterior depression of mesoscutum absent (fig. 8); postpectal carina absent (fig. 6), but with a circular carina around base of middle coxa (fig. 12); Palaearctic *Bitomoides* gen. nov.
 - Occipital carina absent dorsally in lateral view; dorsal carinae of first tergite separated basally and medially without a median carina; third tergite with a sharp lateral crease; notauli largely absent dorsally and medio-posterior depression of mesoscutum present; postpectal carina partly present (but absent in *O. priminans* Fischer, 1996) and no circular carina around base of middle coxa; East Palaearctic, Oriental, Australian *Orientopius* Fischer, 1966
- In addition a new taxon in the subfamily Opiinae (*Phaedrotoma recondes* spec. nov.) and an new name in the subfamily Cheloninae Foerster, 1862 (*Chelonus lukasi* nom. nov.) are validated.

For the identification of the subfamily Opiinae and Cheloninae, see van Achterberg (1990, 1993, 1997), and for the terminology used in this paper, see van Achterberg (1988, 1993).

The EFI photograph has been made with an Olympus motorized stereomicroscope SZX12 with AnalySIS Extended Focal Imaging Software.

Systematics

Bitomoides gen. nov.

Type species: *Bitomus latus* Papp, 1999.

Etymology.— From the generic name *Bitomus* Szépligeti, 1910, and the addition “oides” (Latin for “similar”) because of superficial similarity. Gender: masculine.

Diagnosis.— Occipital carina protruding dorsally in lateral view and near middle level of eye curved (figs 2, 12); face without tubercles (fig. 10); scapus not compressed; inner sides of antennal sockets not protruding; anterior tentorial pits lowly situated and epistomal suture without large depressions (fig. 10); clypeus straight medio-ventrally and hypoclypeal depression present (fig. 10); mandibles moderately slender, twisted apically, with ventral lamella and no basal tooth (fig. 7); precoxal sulcus largely sculptured (fig. 12); pronope absent (fig. 8); notauli largely impressed and medio-posterior depression of mesoscutum absent (fig. 8); scutellar sulcus rather narrow (fig. 8); postpectal carina absent (fig. 6), but with a circular carina around base of middle coxa (fig. 12); hind tibia without basal carina; second submarginal cell of fore wing robust (fig. 1); dorsal carinae of first tergite united basally and medially forming a median carina (fig. 9); dorsope (fig. 9) and laterope (fig. 12) absent; second metasomal tergite 1.3-1.5 times longer than third tergite and bordered posteriorly by a curved second metasomal suture (fig. 9); second tergite longitudinally striate or rugose and third tergite more or less sculptured (figs 9, 12); epipleuron of third tergite similarly sclerotized as its notum and gently folded under notum, without a sharp lateral crease (fig. 12; but in males a crease may be present); fourth metasomal tergite partly retracted (fig. 12).

Biology.— Unknown, but Opiinae are koinobiont endoparasitoids of Diptera-Cyclorrhapha and similar species are parasitoids of leaf miners.

Distribution.— Palaearctic; in Europe only the type species, but the East Palaearctic *Opius semibitomus* Tobias, 1998, may also belong here.

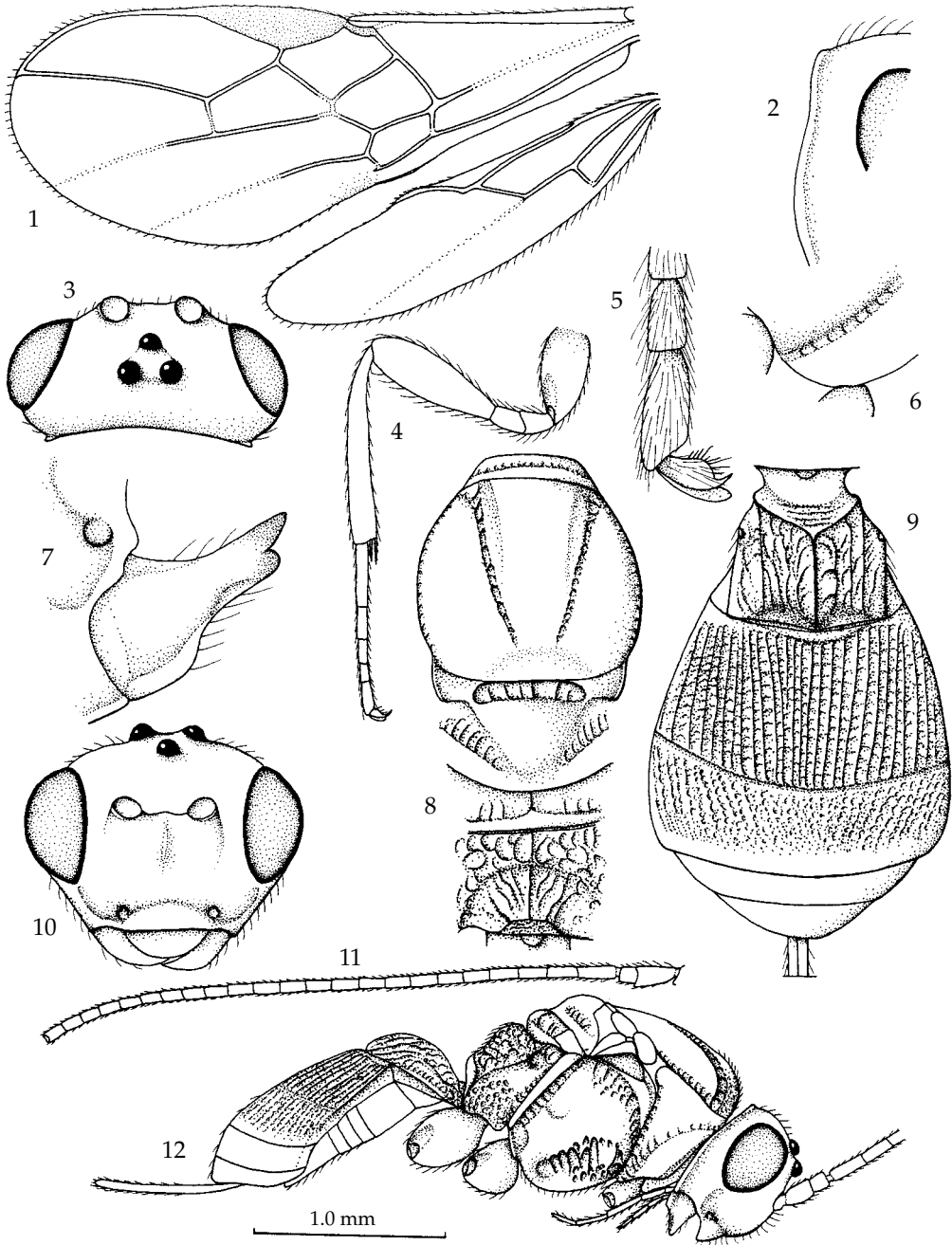
Notes.— Resembles the genus *Coleopius* Fischer, 1964 (which I consider to be a valid genus) because of the carapace-like metasoma, the presence of the hypoclypeal depression, the clypeus truncate medio-ventrally, and the notauli and precoxal sulcus distinctly sculptured. It differs by the absence of a postpectal carina and a sharp lateral crease of the third tergite, having the fourth and fifth tergites exposed, the laterope absent or nearly so, the occipital carina protruding dorsally and curved near the middle level of the eye (fig. 2) and the distinct ventro-basal lamella of the mandible.

Bitomoides latus (Papp, 1999) comb. nov.
(figs 1-12)

Bitomus latus Papp, 1999: 548 (description).

Type material.— Holotype, ♀ (National Museum of Natural History, Budapest), “Hungaria, Jósvaló, Szelce-völgy”, “1988.vii.13, Papp, J.”. “Holotypus ♀ *Bitomus latus* sp. nov., Papp, 1997/ ant. 32-art.”.

Notes.— The synonymy and distribution of this species will be given in the forthcoming revision of the north-western European Opiinae.



Figs 1-12, *Bitomoides latus* (Papp), ♀, holotype. 1, wings; 2, dorsal part of occipital carina, lateral aspect; 3, head, dorsal aspect; 4, hind leg; 5, inner hind claw; 6, mesosternum, latero-ventral aspect; 7, mandible, lateral aspect; 8, mesosoma, dorsal aspect; 9, metasoma, dorsal aspect; 10, head, anterior aspect; 11, antenna; 12, habitus, lateral aspect. 1, 4, 11, 12: 1.0 × scale-line; 2, 5-7: 3.4 ×; 3, 10: 2.5 ×; 8, 9: 1.5 ×.

Phaedrotoma recondes spec. nov.

Opius reconditor auctt., Fischer, 1972: 118, 130; Fischer & Koponen, 1999: 72; not Wesmael, 1835.

Type material.— Holotype (RMNH), ♂, "124", "[Germany], Saxon, Reinh[ard]", "Museum Leiden, *Opius reconditor* Wesm., det. [Reinhard]".

Notes.— *Phaedrotoma reconditor* (Wesmael, 1835) has a large pronope, which is absent in *Opius reconditor* sensu auctt. (e.g., Fischer, 1972 or Fischer & Koponen, 1999: 72). The latter taxon seems to have no valid name and is therefore, named here as *Phaedrotoma recondes* spec. nov. For an extensive description, see Fischer (1972).

Chelonus lukasi nom. nov.

Microchelonus (= *Chelonus*) *bidentulus* Tobias & Lukás, 1997: 21, not *C. bidentulus* Thomson, 1874.

Notes.— The genus *Microchelonus* Szépligeti, 1908, is not well separable from the genus *Chelonus* Panzer, 1806 (van Achterberg & Polaszek, 1996) despite several different attempts (e.g., Zettel, 1990; Papp, 1995). The most general applied character for separation is the presence of an apical aperture of the metasoma, but this is only present in males. This character is not completely connected with another derived character in the female (e.g. fixation of the number of antennal segments of the female to 16). Moreover, most likely the recognition of *Microchelonus* as a genus makes the genus *Chelonus* paraphyletic. *Chelonus bidentulus* (Tobias & Lukás, 1997), described from Slovakia, is a secondary junior homonym of *Chelonus bidentulus* Thomson, 1874, and is therefore, renamed to *C. lukasi* nom. nov. It is named in honour of its collector, Dr Josef Lukás (Bra-tislava).

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Fig. 13, *Phaedrotoma recondes* spec. nov., ♂, holotype, habitus, lateral aspect (EFI-photograph).

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