

Description of a New Genus and 3 new species of Chalcididae from South Africa. (Hym.)

By P. Cameron.

Centrochalcis gen. nov.

Antennae longish, slender, of uniform thickness, the scape slender, its apex reaching to the ocelli, its base broadly, the apex narrowly dilated; 12-jointed; the 2nd joint (pedicle) almost the longest, almost twice the length of the 3rd, which is hardly half the length of the 4th; the last joint hollowed below. Scutellum large, its apex ending in two large, obliquely pointed teeth, which become gradually narrowed; sides of median segment armed with 2 stout teeth, united at the bottom. First abdominal segment large, as long as the following 3 united; the 2nd about one third of its length; the ovipositor broad, projecting. Hind femora with a broad tooth behind the middle; the apex broadly roundly dilated.

Allied to *Euchalcis* and *Neochalcis*. *Stomatoceros*, an African genus resembles it in some respects, e. g. in the spotted wings; but the femora are not toothed beneath; and the sides of the median segment are unarmed.

1. *Centrochalcis octodentata* sp. nov. ♀.

Black; the antennae reddish, darker towards the apex. Malar space long, almost as long as the eyes, which converge slightly above. Inner orbits covered closely with stout, raised tubercles, which are mostly broader than long and are arranged in longitudinal rows, which extend to the lower ocellus; above they are closely rugose. Malar space coarsely, closely rugose. Outer orbits covered closely with raised tubercles. Upper part of thorax closely covered with round, clearly separated punctures of almost uniform size. Metanotum at the base with 3 rows of reticulations; the central area is about 3 times longer than wide and extends to the apex of the 2nd row. Upper part of propleurae covered with longish punctures. Central part of mesopleurae striated closely, the striae becoming weaker below. Meta-pleurae closely, coarsely reticulated; the upper lateral tooth is stouter, longer and more roundly narrowed at the apex

than the other. The 3rd and following segments are covered with silvery pubescence. Scutellar teeth longer than their width at the base, narrowed gradually towards the apex. The last ventral segment extends to the middle of the ovipositor, to which it forms a sheath. Wings dark fuscous, a broad white, oblique band extending from the apex of the stigma to the middle; the base and the apex, more narrowly, are also hyaline. Legs covered with white pile; the apices of the 4 front tarsi dark rufous. — Length to end of ovipositor fully 6 mm.

Transvaal.

2. *Chalcis spilopus* sp. nov. ♀.

Black, the basal half of the antennal scape below, tegulae, the apex of the fore femora broadly, of the middle narrowly, of the apical more broadly above, the base and apex of the 4 front tibiae all round and of the hinder behind broadly, ivory white. Wings clear hyaline, the nervures black. — Length 6 mm.

Transvaal.

Vertex rugosely punctured; the upper lateral parts of the front closely reticulated, below longitudinally rugose. Sides of face coarsely rugosely punctured, the centre more widely punctured, with smooth, raised spaces above and below. A curved keel runs into the malar space from the temples shortly below the eyes. Pronotum strongly, closely punctured; the centre of the basal slope reticulated. Mesonotum closely punctured at the base, the rest more strongly and widely punctured. Scutellum still more strongly punctured and with a smooth longitudinal line in the centre of the basal half. The projecting apex of the scutellum has an irregular incision, which divides it into two equal lobes. Metanotum widely, irregularly reticulated. Base of propleurae irregularly, somewhat obliquely striated; mesopleurae closely reticulated-punctured; the meta- with large, deep reticulations. Hind femora with 11 clearly separated, sharp teeth; the 9th and 10th are shorter than the others. The base of the hind coxae is black, the rest red; the 4 front femora are blackish in the middle behind. The tooth on the upperside of the meta-pleurae is bluntly rounded, indistinct.

3. *Chalcis rotundata* sp. nov. ♀.

Black; the 4 anterior tarsi, the fore tibiae and femora in front and the middle knees rufo-testaceous; the hind legs, except the coxae, bright red. Wings hyaline, the nervures and tegulae black. — Length 4 mm.

South Africa.

Vertex and sides of front rugosely punctured; the sides of face obliquely striated; the centre dilated above, shining, and with a few striae. Pro- and mesothorax rugosely punctured; the scutellum more strongly punctured; its apex in the middle broadly rounded. Metanotum obscurely reticulated, the sides not toothed. Pro- and mesopleurae smooth and shining above; the base of the latter striated, the meta-coarsely, closely rugosely reticulated. Hind coxae closely and strongly punctured; the 4 basal teeth of the femora are closely together, short and thick; the others are more irregular and widely separated. The femoral teeth are less distinct than usual. The antennae short and thick; the flagellum thickly covered with white pubescence. Sheaths of the ovipositor broad, projecting, but not as in *Phasgonophora*, to which it forms, with the entire, non toothed scutellum, a transition.

A New Species of *Chirotica* (Ichneumonidae, Hemitelini) from Cape Colony. (Hym.)

By P. Cameron.

Chirotica balteata sp. nov. ♂.

Black, the legs (except the coxae) and the 2nd and 3rd segments of the abdomen, rufo-testaceous; the mandibles dark rufous, the palpi testaceous; wings hyaline; the stigma and nervures dark fuscous, the base of the stigma white. — Length 2,5 mm.

Antennae longer than the body, about 40-jointed, the scape dark rufo-testaceous. Face shagreened, with a shining line down the centre; the vertex more shining, closely, minutely punctured. Hind ocelli separated from each other by a distinctly greater distance than they are from the eyes. Thorax above closely, minutely punctured, the pleurae more shining, smoother. First abdominal segment aciculated, the others smooth, more shining. Pterostigma large, wide; the radius issues from its middle; radius longer than in *Hemiteles*; the disco-cubital nervure with a distinct stump of a nervure. There is a curved nervure below the metathoracic spiracles, this being the only keel on the median segment; on which, at the base above, is an elongated fovea.

The distinction which separates *Chirotica* from the other *Hemitelini*, lies in the absence of areae on the median segment.

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