



Entomofauna

ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR ENTOMOLOGIE

Band 28, Heft 7: 69-80

ISSN 0250-4413

Ansfelden, 30. April 2007

Seven new exotic species of Platygastriinae (Hymenoptera, Platygasteridae)

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Abstract

Seven new species are described, viz. *Inostemma dux* sp. nov. (South Africa), *Platygaster leileri* sp. nov. (Morocco), *P. sculptiventris* sp. nov. (China), *P. yunnanensis* sp. nov. (China), *P. zambiana* sp. nov. (Zambia), *S. chinensis* sp. nov. (China), and *S. haladai* sp. nov. (Morocco). The work is illustrated by 27 text-figures.

Zusammenfassung

Sieben neue Arten werden beschrieben: *Inostemma dux* sp. nov. (Südafrika), *Platygaster leileri* sp. nov. (Marokko), *P. sculptiventris* sp. nov. (China), *P. yunnanensis* sp. nov. (China), *P. zambiana* sp. nov. (Sambia), *S. chinensis* sp. nov. (China) und *S. haladai* sp. nov. (Marokko). Die Arbeit ist mit 27 Abbildungen versehen.

Introduction

The material described below is from the collection of the Biologiezentrum, Linz, Austria (loan by courtesy of M. SCHWARZ), and from the collection of Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet, Stockholm, Sweden (loan by courtesy of B. VIKLUND).

Inostemma dux sp. nov. (figs 1-3)

Type material. Holotype female: Republic of South Africa, W. Cape, Greyton env., 22.XI.2002, M. SNIŽEK leg., preserved in Biologiezentrum, Linz.

Diagnosis. A large, more than 3 mm long species with reticulate cornutus of female T1 reaching anterior ocellus, and T3-T6 combined more than twice as long as T2, T3 only 1.3

times as wide as long.

Description. Female: Body length 3.2 mm. Black, cornutus brownish towards apex; antennae and coxae blackish, A1 brown at extreme base; legs dark brown; fore and hind tibiae, base and apex of mid tibia, and segments 1-4 of all tarsi light brown.

Head from above (fig. 1) 1.6 times as wide as long, slightly wider than mesosoma (31:29), finely reticulate-coriaceous, on mid and lower parts of frons with distinctly transverse elements; vertex with a moderately deep notch, frons with a medial impression. OOL hardly half as long as diameter of lateral ocellus; LOL = 6 OOL. Head in frontal view 1.4 times as wide as high. A1 of antenna (fig. 2) 0.8 times as long as height of head, with a narrow lamella.

Mesosoma 1.6 times as long as wide, 1.2 times as wide as high. Sides of pronotum finely reticulate-coriaceous as head (not longitudinally so). Mesoscutum with a few very inconspicuous hairs, almost uniformly reticulate-coriaceous (not longitudinally so), with complete and deep notauli which are transversely sculptured. Mesopleuron reticulate-coriaceous, smoother medially. Scutellum uniformly sculptured as mesoscutum, virtually bare, slightly concave along middle. Metapleuron with short pilosity, antero-medially smooth and bare.

Forewing clear, nearly reaching hind margin of T4, 2.7 times as long as wide, with fine and moderately dense microtrichia; subcostal vein light brown, 0.3 times as long as wing; marginal cilia extremely short. Hindwing 4.7 times as long as wide; marginal cilia hardly 0.2 times the width of wing.

Metasoma (fig. 3) without cornutus 1.9 times as long as head and mesosoma combined, narrower than mesosoma (26:29). T1 longitudinally striated; cornutus just reaching anterior ocellus, reticulate without longitudinal elements, bare. T2 with a large hairy fovea antero-medially, tergite longitudinally striated to about 0.7 of length, striation fading out in reticulate microsculpture without longitudinal elements, narrow hind margin smooth; T3-T6 with such microsculpture all over except along narrow hind margins, laterally along whole length with numerous superficially implanted fine hairs.

Affinities. An unusually large species which is much different from the other described African species of the genus. Apart from body size, it is different from e.g. *I. laminatum* (KIEFFER, 1913) in having narrower lamella on A1 and longer abdominal cornutus, and from *I. senegalense* RISBEC, 1950 in having much more elongate apical tergites. Cf. KIEFFER (1926) and RISBEC (1950).

Etymology. The name *dux* means "leader", this large species being definitely the "king" of the described species of *Inostemma*.

***Platygaster leileri* sp. nov.** (figs 4-7)

Type material. Holotype female: Morocco, Agadir, 20.I.1976, T.-E. LEILER leg., preserved in Naturhistoriska Riksmuseet, Stockholm.

Diagnosis. A smooth species with preapical segments of female antenna each about twice as long as wide, notauli very fine but almost complete, and female metasoma as long as head and mesosoma combined.

Description. Female: Body length 1.05 mm. Black, antennae and legs uniformly dark brown.

Head from above (fig. 4) 1.7 times as wide as long, 1.1 times as wide as mesosoma; occiput rounded, finely and densely transversely striated up to posterior ocelli; vertex

weakly reticulate-coriaceous; frons smooth except for some very faint oblique striation laterally in lower half, and for transverse striation above antennal insertions in lower 0.25. OOL and LOL about equal. Head in frontal view almost circular, hardly 1.1 times as wide as high. Antenna (fig. 5) with A1 0.7 times as long as height of head, as long as distance between inner orbits; A9 twice as long as wide.

Mesosoma 1.25 times as long as wide, 1.1 times as high as wide. Sides of pronotum finely longitudinally reticulate-coriaceous, smooth along upper and hind margins. Mesoscutum smooth, only reticulate-coriaceous anteriorly of notauli, disc only with a few hairs along notauli and along margins; notauli faintly indicated as narrow rugose lines ending in sculpture anteriorly; mid lobe bluntly touching base of scutellum; scuto-scutellar grooves triangular, each with about four long hairs. Mesopleuron smooth. Scutellum (fig. 6) evenly convex, smooth, medially almost bare, laterally denser hairy. Metapleuron with pilosity all over. Propodeal carinae very short, rather close together, area between them slightly sculptured.

Forewing clear, 2.6 times as long as wide, overreaching tip of metasoma by the length of T4-T6, with rather dense and long microtrichia; marginal cilia 0.1 width of wing. Hindwing 4.9 times as long as wide, with two hamuli; marginal cilia hardly 0.3 width of wing.

Metasoma (fig. 7) as long as head and mesosoma combined, as wide as head. T1 with three longitudinal carinae. T2 with almost smooth basal foveae, medially striated to 0.25. T3-T6 smooth, each with a few superficially implanted hairs (four on T3, about six on each of T4-T6).

Male: Unknown.

Affinities. Antennae similar to those of *P. compressicornis* (THOMSON, 1859) but *P. leileri* is much smoother, with finer notauli and much differently shaped metasoma. Cf. HUGGERT (1973).

Etymology. Named after the collector.

Platygaster sculptiventris sp. nov. (figs 8-11)

Type material. Holotype male: China, Yunnan, Heishu, 35 km N of Lijiang (27°13'N 100°19'E), 1-19.VII.1992, S. BEČVAĪ leg., preserved in Biologiezentrum, Linz.

Diagnosis. Scutellum with a short, blunt prolongation; T2 extensively and strongly reticulate-coriaceous.

Description. Male: Body length 1.6 mm. Black, A1 and legs light brownish, A1 lightest; A2-A10, mandibles, coxae, apical half of hind tibia, and last segment of all tarsi dark brownish.

Head from above (fig. 8) 2.25 times as wide as long, slightly wider than mesosoma (27:26) and uniformly reticulate-coriaceous (not transversely so) with small meshes; hyperoccipital carina only present behind ocelli, weak. LOL = 1.6 OOL. Head in frontal view 1.25 times as wide as high. Antenna (fig. 9) with A1 as long as height of head, 1.3 times as long as distance between inner orbits; most of flagellar pubescence one-third the width of segments.

Mesosoma 1.5 times as long as wide, almost 1.2 times as high as wide. Sides of pronotum distinctly and uniformly reticulate-coriaceous (not longitudinally so) all over. Mesoscutum with very sparse hairs, almost uniformly reticulate-coriaceous (not longitudinally so); notauli absent; hind margin of disc slightly and evenly rounded, not prolonged medially; scuto-scutellar grooves large, each with 3-4 hairs. Mesopleuron with fine longi-

tudinal striation just above middle, most of surface with faint longitudinal microsculpture. Scutellum (fig. 10) sculptured as mesoscutum, hairs longer and slightly denser than on this, surface posteriorly prolonged into a blunt, dark tooth with a narrow, brownish lamella below. Metapleuron smooth and bare in about anterior 0.3 and upper 0.4, rest with short pilosity. Propodeal carinae brownish, parallel, close together; sculptured area between them fully twice as long as wide.

Forewing 1.25 times as long as entire body, 2.8 times as long as wide, distinctly brownish and with dense and rather long microtrichia; marginal cilia hardly 0.1 times the width of wing. Hindwing (rather damaged) with marginal cilia about 0.25 times the width of wing.

Metasoma (fig. 11) slightly more than 0.8 times as long as head and mesosoma combined, slightly narrower than mesosoma. T1 with two strong longitudinal carinae, otherwise smooth, along sides with sparse outstanding hairs. T2 with small and bare basal foveae which are striated to slightly more than 0.1 the length of tergite; T2 smooth behind basal foveae to about midlength, tergite medially from base to end and in entire posterior half strongly, dull reticulate-coriaceous, in anterior half with slightly longitudinal elements. T3-T7 with broad, strongly reticulate-coriaceous hind margins, smooth only anteriorly, with a few superficially implanted fine hairs (about five on each side of each of T4-T5).

Affinities. Similar to the W. Palaearctic species around *P. cochleata* WALKER, 1835, but with much stronger and more extensive sculpture, shorter antennae, longer and darker forewings, etc., cf. VLUG (1985).

Etymology. The name refers to the strikingly sculptured metasoma of this species.

***Platygaster yunnanensis* sp. nov.** (figs 12-15)

Type material. Holotype female: China, Yunnan, Heishu, 35 km N of Lijiang (27°13'N 100°19'E), 1-19.VII.1992, S. BEČVAĽ leg., preserved in Biologiezentrum, Linz.

Diagnosis. Head more than twice as long as wide, occiput partly reticulate-coriaceous, partly finely transversely striated, frons mostly smooth, female A9 nearly 1.4 times as long as wide, notauli present in posterior three-fourths, scutellum smooth and hardly convex; female metasoma very slightly longer than head and mesosoma combined, T2 without striation, T3-T6 combined 0.45 times as long as T2.

Description. Female: Body length 2.0 mm. Black; antennae hardly lighter, extreme base of A1, apex of A2, and most of A3-A5 with dark brownish tint; mandibles very dark reddish brown; coxae black, trochanters and femora very dark reddish brown, tibiae and segments 1-4 of tarsi light brown, last segment of tarsi darkened.

Head from above (fig. 12) 2.2 times as wide as long, hardly as wide as mesosoma; occiput in posterior 0.6 irregularly reticulate-coriaceous, in anterior 0.4 finely transversely striated, striation behind ocelli almost forming transverse carinae; vertex with faint microsculpture between ocelli, laterally smooth; frons smooth, with a few oblique wrinkles above antennal insertions. OOL:LOL = 4:3. Head in frontal view 1.2 times as wide as high. Antenna (fig. 13) with A1 longer than height of head (25:24).

Mesosoma almost 1.6 times as long as wide, 1.1 times as high as wide. Sides of pronotum smooth except for faint reticulation in upper anterior corner, with rather dense hair-implantations over most of surface. Mesoscutum with numerous hairs along notauli, laterally and posteriorly, otherwise bare, faintly reticulate-coriaceous, smooth medially on mid lobe and medially on lateral lobes; notauli strong, missing in anterior 0.25; mid lobe

posteriorly bluntly prolonged to base of scutellum; scuto-scutellar grooves each with about 10 inconspicuous hairs. Mesopleuron smooth except for a couple of faint wrinkles below tegula. Scutellum (fig. 14) smooth, rather densely and evenly hairy, at level of mesoscutum. Metapleuron with pilosity all over. Propodeal carinae parallel, well separated, slightly elongate area between them smooth and shiny.

Forewing 0.95 times as long as entire body, 2.3 times as long as wide, with brownish tint and fine and dense microtrichia; marginal cilia hardly 0.1 times the width of wing. Hindwing 5.0 times as long as wide, with two hamuli; marginal cilia hardly 0.3 times the width of wing.

Metasoma (fig. 15) hardly 1.1 times as long as head and mesosoma combined, 0.9 times as wide as mesosoma. T1 smooth, with two strong longitudinal carinae. T2 with two distinct basal foveae each as long as T1, smooth, with faint traces of microsculpture along hind margin; T3-T6 finely reticulate-coriaceous almost all over, with a few superficially implanted long hairs: Four on each of T3-T4, six on each of T5-T6.

Affinities. Similar to Korean *P. tripotini* BUHL & CHOI, 2006, but this species has stronger sculptured head and shorter meso- and metasoma than *P. yunnanensis*, cf. also BUHL & CHOI (2006).

Etymology. The name refers to the region of the type locality.

Platygaster zambiana sp. nov. (figs 16-19)

Type material. Holotype male: Zambia, 100 km NE of Livingstone, 26.XII.2002, J. HALADA leg., preserved in Biologiezentrum, Linz.

Diagnosis. A small species with light A1-A5 and legs, A6-A9 each at least 1.7 times as wide, notauli absent, slightly and evenly convex scutellum, and T2 hardly striated.

Description. Female: Body length 0.8 mm. Black; A1-A5, mandibles and legs including coxae light brownish yellow; A6-A10, tegulae and last segment of all tarsi dark brown.

Head from above (fig. 16) 2.0 times as wide as long, 1.25 times as wide as mesosoma; occiput rounded, finely transversely striated up to ocelli, behind eyes smooth; vertex transversely reticulate-coriaceous, laterally almost smooth; frons smooth, in lower 0.6 finely transversely striated, smooth medially. OOL:LOL = 3:2. Head in frontal view one and a third times as wide as high. Antenna (fig. 17) with A1 hardly shorter than height of head; A9 1.75 times as long as wide.

Mesosoma 1.4 times as long as wide, very slightly higher than wide (14:13). Sides of pronotum smooth, each with at most ten long hairs. Mesoscutum smooth, with a few hairs along margins and where notauli should have been; notauli entirely absent; hind margin of mesoscutum medially bluntly prolonged to base of scutellum; scuto-scutellar grooves with numerous long hairs. Mesopleuron smooth. Scutellum (fig. 18) low, evenly convex, smooth, moderately hairy. Metapleuron with pilosity all over. Propodeal carinae short, transverse area between them smooth and shiny.

Forewing clear, 0.9 times as long as entire body, 2.7 times as long as wide, with dense and moderately long microtrichia; marginal cilia 0.1 times the width of wing. Hindwing 7.0 times as long as wide, with two hamuli; marginal cilia 0.5 times the width of wing.

Metasoma (fig. 19) hardly 0.9 times as long as head and mesosoma combined, 0.8 times as wide as mesosoma. T1 slightly unevenly crenulated. T2 smooth except for a few very faint traces of striation in basal foveae. T3-T6 smooth, with a few superficially implanted hairs.

Affinities. Several small *Platygaster*-species with light body appendages are known: *P. pilco* SUNDHOLM, 1970 has shorter flagellar segments and more convex scutellum than *P. zambiana*; *P. pauliani* RISBEC, 1953 has longer female A4 and darker body appendages than *P. zambiana*; *P. pubiventris* BUHL, 2005 has scutellum angular posteriorly, and *P. nisus* WALKER, 1835 has notauli indicated posteriorly and scutellum ovoid. Cf. RISBEC (1953), SUNDHOLM (1970), VLUG (1985), and BUHL (2005).

Etymology. Named after the country of the type locality.

***Synopeas chinensis* sp. nov.** (figs 20-23)

Type material. Holotype female: China, Shaanxi, Qinling mts., Xunyangba (6 km E), 1000-1300 m, 23.V.-13.VI.1998, I.H. MARSHAL leg., preserved in Biologiezentrum, Linz.

Diagnosis. An aberrant species on account of structure of metasoma. T1 with three longitudinal carinae, clearly separated from T2 which is unusually convex anteriorly. Furthermore, propodeal carinae are clearly separated and diverging, and tooth of scutellum is characteristically shaped.

Description. Female. Body length 1.9 mm. Black; A1-A6, mandibles and legs excluding coxae medium brownish; mid and hind femora, apical half of mid and hind tibiae, and last segment of tarsi darkened.

Head from above (fig. 20) 2.25 times as wide as long, slightly wider than mesosoma (29:28), finely transversely reticulate-coriaceous, behind ocelli with a couple of weak transverse carinae, above antennae with a few transverse wrinkles. OOL 1.25 times as long as longer diameter of lateral ocellus; OOL = LOL. Head in frontal view 1.25 times as wide as high. Antenna (fig. 21) with A1 shorter than height of head (21:23), longer than distance between inner orbits (21:18).

Mesosoma 1.4 times as long as wide, 1.1 times as high as wide. Sides of pronotum finely reticulate-coriaceous (not longitudinally so) all over. Mesoscutum with a few inconspicuous hairs, finely and uniformly reticulate-coriaceous, without notauli; hind margin unmodified, bluntly pointed to base of scutellum; scuto-scutellar grooves wide, each with 12 long hairs. Mesopleuron with weak, dull microsculpture in upper 0.7, smooth below. Scutellum (fig. 22) finely and slightly unevenly reticulate-coriaceous, medially almost smooth and bare, laterally moderately hairy, upper surface ending in a tooth which in dorsal view is broad and blunt, semitransparent brownish, below with a narrow, dark lamella. Metapleuron with pilosity except on small areas above and antero-medially. Propodeal carinae dark, high, well separated, diverging, area between them about as long as its width at apex, smooth and shiny.

Forewing 0.9 times as long as entire body, 2.6 times as long as wide, faintly brownish, with fine and dense microtrichia; marginal cilia at their longest 0.05 times the width of wing. Hindwing 4.9 times as long as wide; marginal cilia 0.25 times the width of wing.

Metasoma (fig. 23) 1.2 times as long as head and mesosoma combined, hardly 1.1 times as wide as mesosoma, 1.25 times as wide as high. T1 with three longitudinal carinae, laterally with numerous hairs. T2 distinctly convex antero-medially with a slightly pubescent fovea on each side, with a medial longitudinal carina which is as long as T1, and a shorter lateral carina on inner slope of basal foveae 0.7 times as long as medial carina, T2 with distinct reticulate microsculpture along narrow hind margin; T3-T5 with such microsculpture along hind margin, T6 smooth only basally; apical tergites with superficially implanted hairs (10 on each of T4-T5).

Affinities. An isolated species most similar to *S. latvianus* BUHL (in press), but this species e.g. has head only 1.7 times as wide as long and scutellum ending in a much smaller tooth than in *S. chinensis*.

Etymology. Named after the country of the type locality.

***Synopeas haladai* sp. nov.** (figs 24-27)

Type material. Holotype female: Morocco, 30 km N of Zagora, 15.V.1997, J. HALADA leg., preserved in Biologiezentrum, Linz.

Diagnosis. Head without hyperoccipital carina, female A9 1.3 times as wide as long, notauli absent, scutellum evenly rounded, female metasoma slightly longer than head and mesosoma combined and slightly higher than wide.

Description. Female: Body length 1.2 mm. Black, antennae very dark brown, mandibles, tegulae and legs slightly lighter dark brown; fore femur towards apex, base and apex of fore tibia, base of mid and hind tibiae, and segments 1-4 of all tarsi light brownish.

Head from above (fig. 24) 2.0 times as wide as long, fully 1.1 times as wide as mesosoma, finely and slightly transversely reticulate-coriaceous, without hyperoccipital carina, occiput rounded. OOL 1.3 times as long as longer diameter of lateral ocellus; LOL = 2 OOL. Head in frontal view one and a third times as wide as high. Antenna (fig. 25) with A1 0.75 times as long as height of head, shorter than distance between inner orbits (12:13).

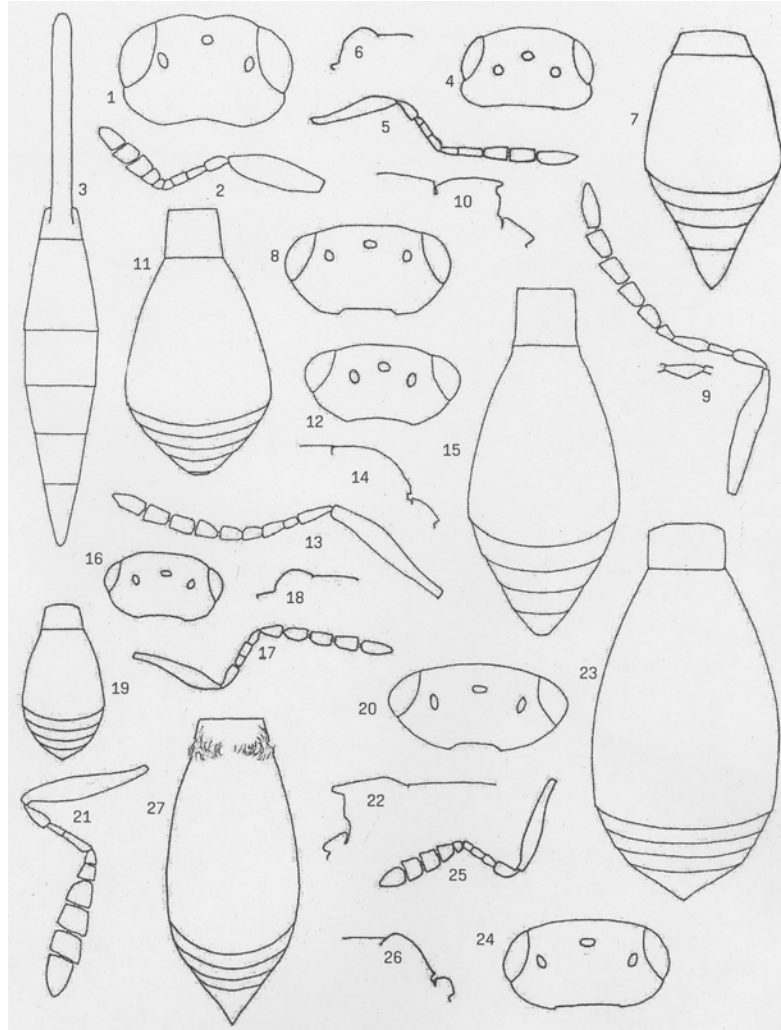
Mesosoma 1.4 times as long as wide, 1.1 times as high as wide. Sides of pronotum weakly reticulate-coriaceous, in lower half longitudinally so, along hind margin smooth. Mesoscutum evenly and sparsely hairy, weakly reticulate-coriaceous, smoother postero-medially, without notauli; hind margin medially with a rather long, only slightly transverse, faintly brownish (not swollen) blunt prolongation covering extreme base of scutellum; scuto-scutellar grooves wide, densely covered by whitish hairs; mesopleuron with fine longitudinal microsculpture in upper 0.3, rest smooth. Scutellum (fig. 26) medially smooth and almost bare, laterally densely hairy, only slightly keeled in extreme posterior part. Metapleuron smooth and bare in anterior third, rest with pilosity. Propodeal carinae dark, short, very close together.

Forewing slightly overreaching tip of metasoma, 0.8 times as long as entire body, 2.4 times as long as wide, clear, with dense and very fine microtrichia; marginal cilia absent. Hindwing about 5.4 times as long as wide; marginal cilia 0.3 times the width of wing.

Metasoma (fig. 27) 1.2 times as long as head and mesosoma combined, slightly more than 0.9 times as wide as mesosoma, nearly 1.1 times as high as wide. T2 with very faint reticulate microsculpture along hind margin, T3-T5 with more distinct such sculpture along hind margin, T6 faintly reticulate all over; apical tergites with superficially implanted hairs: Two on T3, six on T4, and eight on T5.

Affinities. *S. ibadanensis* BUHL, 2004 has wider A7-A9 than *S. haladai* and metasoma wider than high; *S. tropicus* BUHL, 1997 has a weak hyperoccipital carina, and metasoma is 1.2 times as high as wide; *S. kaponeni* BUHL, 2003 has scutellum angular in lateral view and metasoma hardly as high as wide; *S. neglectus* BUHL, 2004 has metasoma not longer than head and mesosoma combined, at most as high as wide; *S. neuroteri* KIEFFER, 1916 has more transverse A8-A9 than *S. haladai*, and *S. salicicola* (KIEFFER, 1913) has notauli indicated. Cf. KIEFFER (1926) and BUHL (1997, 2003, 2004a, 2004b).

Etymology. Named after the collector.



Figs 1-3 *Inostemma dux* sp. nov. female: 1 head, 2 antenna, 3 metasoma. Figs 4-7 *Platygaster leileri* sp. nov. female: 4 head, 5 antenna, 6 scutellum, 7 metasoma. Figs 8-11 *Platygaster sculptiventris* sp. nov. male: 8 head, 9 antenna (A4 also from a different angle), 10 scutellum, 11 metasoma. Figs 12-15 *Platygaster yunnanensis* sp. nov. female: 12 head, 13 antenna, 14 scutellum, 15 metasoma. Figs 16-19 *Platygaster zambiana* sp. nov. female: 16 head, 17 antenna, 18 scutellum, 19 metasoma. Figs 20-23 *Synopeas chinensis* sp. nov. female: 20 head, 21 antenna, 22 scutellum, 23 metasoma. Figs 24-27 *Synopeas haladai* sp. nov. female: 24 head, 25 antenna, 26 scutellum, 27 metasoma.

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Literaturbesprechung

OOSTERBROEK, Pjotr 2006: The European Families of the Diptera. Identification, diagnosis, biology. - 205 pp., 582 figs, hard cover, thread bound, size 17 x 25 cm, ISBN 90-5011-245-5 / 978-90-511-245-1, KNNV Publishing Utrecht, www.knnvpublishing.nl

“The European Families of the Diptera” presents an identification key and family descriptions of all 132 families of Diptera (two-winged flies: midges, mosquitoes, gnats, true flies) occurring in Europe. It is written by a well-known Dutch specialist, in collaboration with over 30 European dipterists.

For the extensive identification key a new combination of important characters is employed, enabling relatively easy identification of families which are aberrant or traditionally considered difficult to identify. Nearly 600 line drawings are included to illustrate characters and families. Apart from the key, the book includes an extensive chapter on terminology. Information on systematics and the number of genera and species in Europe, a survey of the main characters, a summary of the biology and of the pertaining identification literature is included for all families.

Due to its design and content, the book will be of interest to the lay public and the serious amateur alike.

W. SCHACHT

POLIZA, M. 2006: Africa. - teNeues Verlag, Kempen. 408 S.

Viel Text ist in diesem Bildband nicht zu finden; im Prinzip betrifft es nur die ersten 33 Seiten, dazu noch auf Englisch, Deutsch, Französisch, Spanisch und Italienisch. Diese wenigen Textseiten beschreiben den Werdegang des Fotografen, vom Jung-Filmstar, Jung-Unternehmer bis hin zum Initiator der “Starship Millennium Voyage”. Danach ließ sich Poliza in Kapstadt nieder und bereiste das südliche und östliche Afrika. Er lernte es, sich in die Natur und die Tiere hineinzusetzen, kombinierte dies mit extremer Ausdauer und einem treffsicheren Gespür für den richtigen Augenblick. Entstanden sind so 180 Farbaufnahmen (digital mit Canon-Kameras fotografiert), die doppelseitig im Format 29x37cm präsentiert werden. Es sind keine “Schnappschüsse”, sondern durchdachte Kompositionen, von farblicher Brillanz und enormer Schärfe (ohne “moderne” Unschärfespielereien). Schade, dass man nur über ganz wenige Bilder die Entstehungsgeschichte erfährt. Immerhin gibt es im Anhang zu allen Bildern die wesentlichen fotografischen Details: Thema, Ort, Verschlusszeit, Blende und Brennweite (12-1200mm).

Dieser Bildband ist eines der wenigen Bücher, die nicht lange im Regal verbleiben; man wird es immer wieder herausnehmen, durchblättern und sich von der gewaltigen Pracht verführen lassen. Man kann von Afrika und seinen Tieren träumen, und man kann sich vornehmen, bei der nächsten Reise mehr Zeit für's Fotografieren aufzubringen - Anregungen findet man in diesem Buch ohne Ende. - Kein Naturliebhaber wird sich diesen Bildern verschließen können.

R. GERSTMEIER

BOUSQUET, Y. & LAPLANTE, S. 2006: Coleoptera. Histeridae. The Insects and Arachnids of Canada, Part 24. - NRC Research Press, Ottawa. 485 S.

Diese Handbuch-Serie wurde 1976 von Wissenschaftlern der "Canadian National Collection of Insects, Arachnids, and Nematodes" ins Leben gerufen und behandelt taxonomische Einheiten (nach Möglichkeit bis zum Artniveau) von Insekten und Spinnentieren Canadas und benachbarter Regionen.

Dieser 24. Band beschäftigt sich mit den 135 Arten von Histeridae (Coleoptera), die aus Canada bekannt sind sowie 11 weiterer Arten, die evt. dort vorkommen könnten. Sieben neue Arten werden beschrieben. Die Bestimmungsschlüssel zu Unterfamilien, Gattungen und Arten liegen in englischer und französischer Sprache vor, der Text zu Diagnose, Beschreibung, Verbreitung und Biologie der einzelnen Arten ist auf Englisch verfasst. Zu etlichen Arten liegen fantastische, ganzseitige Gesamthabituszeichnungen vor, wichtige morphologische Details sind auf REM-Bildern dargestellt und Genitalabbildungen sind in Form von Strichzeichnungen ausgeführt. Insgesamt resultieren somit 389 Abbildungen und 90 Verbreitungskarten.

Eine beachtliche Monographie auf gutem Niveau, die eine einwandfreie Bestimmung aller canadischen Stutzkäfer erlaubt.

R. GERSTMEIER

PECK, S.B. 2006: The Beetles of the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador: Evolution, Ecology, and Diversity (Insecta: Coleoptera). - NRC Research Press, Ottawa. 313 S.

Die Galápagos-Inseln beherbergen mindestens 2000 Insektenarten und etwa 350 Arten anderer terrestrischer Arthropoden. 486 Käferarten (aus 56 Familien) werden in diesem Band behandelt; davon sind 266 endemisch, 110 indigen und 110 eingeführt. "Arten-schwärme" treten in flügellosen Gattungen (z.B. *Pterostichus*, *Ammophorus*, *Blapstinus*, *Galapagonus*) auf. Die Käferdiversität ist mit der Inselgröße, der Höhe und der ökologischen Komplexität positiv korreliert, aber nicht mit dem Inselalter.

Das Kernstück des Buches ist natürlich die Beschreibung der Arten, inkl. Bestimmungsschlüssel (Gattungen, Arten) und Angaben zur Verbreitung und Bionomie (**keine** Abbildungen).

Interessant sind aber auch die einführenden Kapitel, in denen der mehr "allgemein" interessierte Leser sehr viel über Geologie, Klima und biotische Zonierung erfährt und der "Käferspezialist" sich über den Ursprung und die Kolonisierung, die Evolution, Ökologie und Verbreitung der Käfer informieren kann.

Eine gelungene Monographie aus der Feder eines der weltweit anerkanntesten Coleopterologen.

R. GERSTMEIER

PASSERA, L. & ARON, S. 2005: Les Fourmis. Comportement, organisation sociale et évolution. - CNRC NRC Research Press, Ottawa. 480 S.

Die ultimative Ameisen-Monographie, "leider" nur auf Französisch. Wer dieser Sprache mächtig ist, findet auf 480 Seiten alles Wissenswerte über Ameisen (und vieles mehr): Omnipräsenz und anatomische Besonderheiten, Ursprung der Sozialität, Verbreitung der Gene, Entwicklung von Gesellschaften, Konflikte und Allianzen, Arbeitsorganisation, chemische Information, Anpassung an die Umwelt, Wettbewerb, königinlose Völker, Beziehungen zwischen Ameisen und Pflanzen, Beziehungen zwischen Ameisen und Pilzen, Beziehungen zu anderen Ameisen, Beziehungen zu anderen Tieren (Trophobie, Myrmecophilie), Ameisen-Eindringlinge, Selbst-Organisation und Super-Organismen.
R. GERSTMEIER

TEMBROCK, G. 2006: Verhalten bei Tieren. - Die Neue Brehm Bücherei 455; A. Ziemsen Verlag/ Westarp Wissenschaftsverlagsgesellschaft, Hohenwarsleben. 216 S.

Diese Ausgabe ist eine digital gedruckte Kleinstauflage ("print-on-demand") der dritten, neugestalteten Auflage von 1984. Obwohl nicht gerade viele deutschsprachige Fachbücher zur Verhaltensbiologie auf dem Markt sind, fragt man sich natürlich schon, was der Anlass sein könnte, ein Werk von 1984 - unverändert - wieder aufzulegen. Der Vorteil dieses Buches ist der Lesegenuss ohne das "unhandliche" Rüstzeug der Fachsprache. Prof. Tembrock ist in der Lage, lebendige Wissenschaft anschaulich zu vermitteln, Neugierde zu wecken und Erlebensfreude mitzuteilen. Dies soll allerdings nicht darüber hinwegtäuschen, dass wir uns hier eben noch auf dem Wissensstand von 1984 befinden und somit moderne Aspekte der Evolutionsbiologie und Verhaltensökologie vermisst werden.

R. GERSTMEIER

Druck, Eigentümer, Herausgeber, Verleger und für den Inhalt verantwortlich:
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Fritz GUSENLEITNER, Lungitzerstrasse 51, A-4222 St. Georgen a.d. Gusen
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Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Entomofauna](#)

Jahr/Year: 2007

Band/Volume: [0028](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Buhl Peter Neerup

Artikel/Article: [Seven new exotic species of Platygastrinae \(Hymenoptera, Platygastridae\). 69-80](#)