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Notes on the Evaniidae (Hymenoptera) of the Mascarenes

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A b s t r a c t : Two species of Evaniidae have been recorded from the Mascarenes. A check list of Evaniidae of the Malagasy subregion is included.

K e y w o r d s : Evaniidae, distribution, Malagasy subregion, Mascarenes, Réunion, Mauritius, Rodrigues.

Introduction

The small family Evaniidae contains about 440 described species worldwide. These species are solitary egg parasitoids (often mentioned as predators) of cockroach oothecae (Blattoidea).

Up to date five genera comprising 13 species have been recorded from the Malagasy subregion (DEANS 2005). During our survey of the Hymenoptera fauna of the Republic of Mauritius another species, *Prosevania erythrosoma* SCHLETTNERER 1886, has been discovered on Mauritius and Rodrigues. This species, which is known from the Oriental Region, is the second evaniid to be recorded outside Madagascar.

Material

The paper is based on the material from following institutions: Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute (MSIRI) in Réduit (Mauritius), Museum d'Histoire Naturelle de La Réunion (MHN RUN) in Saint Denis (Réunion) and Natural History Museum Vienna (NHMW).

Faunistics

Evania appendigaster (LINNAEUS 1758)

Evania appendigaster (LINNAEUS 1758): MÜLLER 1775: 867 (Mauritius), pl. 26 (fig. 6).

Evania appendigaster (LINNAEUS 1758): OLIVIER 1791: 453 (descr., Mauritius)

Evania appendigaster (LINNAEUS 1758): WESTWOOD 1844: 241 (tax., Mauritius)

Evania appendigaster (LINNAEUS 1758): SCHLETTNERER 1886: 6 (key), 10 (descr. ? /, Mauritius), 39 (cat.) pl. 1 (figs. 1, 6, 9).

- Evania appendigaster* (LINNAEUS 1758): SCHLETTNERER 1889: 130 (key), 136 (descr. ♂ ♀, Mauritius), pl. 6 (figs. 4b, 5a, 6).
- Evania appendigaster* (LINNAEUS 1758): DALLA TORRE 1902: 1076 (cat., Mauritius, Réunion).
- Evania appendigaster* (LINNAEUS 1758): KIEFFER 1902: 3 (cat., Mauritius), pl. 1 (fig. 3).
- Evania appendigaster* (LINNAEUS 1758): KIEFFER 1912: 2 (fig. 2), 7 (figs. 9, 10), 67 (key), 83 (descr. ♂ ♀, Réunion, Mauritius), 84 (figs. 36, 37).
- Evania appendigaster* (LINNAEUS 1758): BORDAGE 1914: 379 (tax., biol., Réunion), 380 (fig. 16).
- Evania (Evania) appendigaster* (LINNAEUS 1758): HEDICKE 1939: 4 (cat., Mauritius, Réunion).
- Evania appendigaster* (LINNAEUS 1758): MOUTIA & MAMET 1947: 27 (cat., Mauritius).
- Evania appendigaster* (LINNAEUS 1758): BENOIT 1952: 167 (Mauritius).
- Evania appendigaster* (LINNAEUS 1758): WILLIAMS 1958: 113 (cat., Mauritius).
- Evania appendigaster* (LINNAEUS 1758): WILLIAMS 1974: 4 (cat., Mauritius).
- Evania appendigaster* (LINNAEUS 1758): WILLIAMS 1980: 5 (cat., Mauritius).
- Evania appendigaster* (LINNAEUS 1758): GANESHAN & WILLIAMS 2005: 5 (cat., Mauritius).
- Evania appendigaster* (LINNAEUS 1758): DEANS 2001: 27 (cat., Mauritius, Réunion, Rodrigues)
- Evania desjardinsi* nov.sp.: BLANCHARD 1840: 299 (descr., Mauritius)
- Evania Desjardinsi* BLANCHARD 1840: GUÉRIN-MÉNEVILLE 1843: 334 (jun. syn. of *Evania laevigata* OLIVIER)
- Evania Desjardinsii* BLANCHARD 1840: WESTWOOD 1844: 242 (tax.)
- Evania Desjardinsii* BLANCHARD 1840: WESTWOOD 1851: 214 (tax.)
- Evania Desjardinsii* BLANCHARD 1840: de SAUSSURE 1890: pl. 15 (figs. 31, 31a).
- Evania Desjardinsii* BLANCHARD 1840: BORDAGE 1896a: 610 (biol., Réunion).
- Evania Desjardinsii* BLANCHARD 1840: BORDAGE 1896b: 473 (biol., Réunion).
- Evania Desjardinsii* BLANCHARD 1840: SCHULZ 1906: 134 (tax.).
- Evania Desjardinsii* BLANCHARD 1840: SCHULZ 1912: 57 (tax.)
- Evania laevigata* LATREILLE 1807: SMITH 1879: 534 (cat.), 538 (Rodrigues).
- Evania laevigata* OLIVIER 1792: GERSTAECER 1862: 520 (tax., Mauritius)
- Host: *Periplaneta americana* (LINNAEUS 1758).

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Mauritius: Flic en Flac, Manisa Hotel 1♀ 04. Dezember 2004 leg. G. u. M. Novak (NHMW) – Grand Bay 1♂ 10.1.1984 leg. J.R. Williams (MSIRI) – Quatre Bornes, Hotel El Monaco 1♀ 17.05.2007 leg. M. Madl (NHMW) – Réduit 1♀ April 1954, 1♀ 17.3.1982, 1♂ 30.1.1983, 1♂ 24.2.1984 leg. J.R. Williams (MSIRI) – Vacoas, Henrietta 3♂ ♂ December 2003 leg. Siedlecki (NHMW) – without locality 1♂ 1858 leg. I. Pfeiffer (NHMW) — Réunion: Saint Denis: Boulevard Lancastel 1♂ 20.-21.04.2004 leg. M. Madl (NHMW); Museum 1♀ 19.3.1968, 1♂ 30.3.1968 (MHN REU); 1♀ 3.8.2001, 1♀ 10.3.2001 leg. R. Parnaudeau (MHN REU).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Known from all zoogeographical regions. In the Malagasy subregion recorded from Seychelles (Inner Seychelles, Coetivy), Madagascar, Réunion, Mauritius and Rodrigues.

The cosmopolitan species *Evania appendigaster* is an important control agent of the American cockroach, *Periplaneta americana* (LINNAEUS 1758), which is a nasty household pest in tropical and subtropical areas. Other hosts in the Mascarene islands could be *Periplaneta australasiae* (FABRICIUS 1775) and *Rhyparobia maderae* (FABRICIUS 1781). MOUTIA & MAMET (1947) erroneously recorded spiders as hosts.

***Prosevania erythrosoma* (SCHLETTNERER 1886)**

M a t e r i a l e x a m i n e d : Mauritius: Plaisance, Airport 1♀ leg. M. Madl (NHMW) – Mondrain Reserve 1♀ 14.05.2007 leg. M. Madl (NHMW) — Rodrigues: Nouvelle Découverte, in car 1♀ 10.05.2007 leg. M. Madl (NHMW).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Oriental Region: India, Sri Lanka — Ethiopian Region: Mauritius, Rodrigues.

The specimens were compared with the type of *Prosevania erythrosoma* (SCHLETTERER 1886), which is housed in the Natural History Museum in Vienna.

Checklist of Evaniidae of the Malagasy subregion and their distribution

- Evania appendigaster* (LINNAEUS 1758): Madagascar, Seychelles (Inner Seychelles, Coetivy), Réunion, Mauritius, Rodrigues.
- Micrevania difficilis* BENOIT 1952: Madagascar.
- Micrevania minuscula* BENOIT 1952: Madagascar.
- Parevania madagassa* BENOIT 1952: Madagascar.
- Parevania plana* BENOIT 1952: Madagascar.
- Prosevania berlandi* (BENOIT 1952): Madagascar.
- Prosevania animensis* (SPINOLA 1840): Madagascar.
- Prosevania erythrosoma* (SCHLETTERER 1886): Mauritius, Rodrigues.
- Prosevania ivondroensis* (BENOIT 1952): Madagascar.
- Prosevania microphthalmia* (BENOIT 1952): Madagascar.
- Prosevania scintilla* (BENOIT 1952): Madagascar.
- Prosevania seyrigi* (BENOIT 1952): Madagascar.
- Zeuxevania lamellata* BENOIT 1952: Madagascar.
- Zeuxevania variabilis* BENOIT 1952: Madagascar.

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Zusammenfassung

Über die Evaniidae (Hymenoptera) der Maskarenen — Die Familie Evaniidae ist auf den Maskarenen mit zwei Arten vertreten. Eine Artenliste der Evaniidae der Madagassischen Unterregion ist beigelegt.

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