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A catalogue of the family Chalcididae (Hymenoptera, Chalcidoidea) of Eritrea

Michael MADL

A b s t r a c t : In Eritrea the family Chalcididae is represented by 15 species in five subfamilies. The subfamily Brachymeriinae is known by the genus *Brachymeria* WESTWOOD, 1829 (eight species), the subfamily Cratocentrinae by the genus *Cratocentrus* CAMERON, 1907 (one species) and the subfamily Dirhininae by the genera *Dirhinus* DALMAN, 1818 (one species) and *Pseudeniaca* MASI, 1936 (one species). The subfamily Epitraninae is represented by the genus *Epitranus* WALKER, 1834 (one species) and the subfamily Haltichellinae by the genera *Antrocephalus* KIRBY, 1883 (one species), *Hockeria* WALKER, 1834 (one species) and *Rhynchochalcis* CAMERON, 1905 (one species).

K e y w o r d s : Chalcididae, Brachymeriinae, Cratocentrinae, Epitraninae, Haltichellinae, catalogue, Eritrea

Introduction

The species rich family Chalcididae is represented by about 220 species in the Afrotropical region excluding Malagasy subregion, of which only 15 species are recorded from Eritrea. The subfamily Brachymeriinae is represented by nine species, the subfamily Dirhininae by two species, the subfamily Epitraninae by *Epitranus observator* WALKER, 1842 and the subfamily Haltichellinae by three species.

Chalcididae are parasitoids or hyperparasitoids of several insects orders, mainly of Lepidoptera and Diptera. The biology of the Eritrean species is unknown.

Annotated catalogue

Synonyms or misidentifications are marked with an asterisk (*) and printing errors with an exclamation mark (!).

Subfamily **B r a c h y m e r i i n a e**

***Brachymeria albicrus* (KLUG, 1834)**

Brachymeria albicrus (KLUG, 1834): MASI 1936: 123 (taxonomy, biology, Ghinda).

Chalcis albicrus KLUG, 1834: SCHMITZ 1946: 26 (taxonomy, catalogue Afrotropical region), 36 (key).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Ghinda.

Brachymeria albicrus is known from the Afrotropical (Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somalia), Australian, Oriental and Palearctic regions.

***Brachymeria amenocles* (WALKER, 1846)**

Brachymeria amenocles (WALKER, 1846): MASI 1936: 123 (taxonomy, Ghinda, Keren, Sabarguma).
Chalcis amenocles WALKER, 1846: SCHMITZ 1946: 26 (taxonomy, catalogue Afrotropical region), 36 (key).

Brachymeria amenocles (WALKER, 1846): DELVARE & HUCHET 2017: 53 (figs 25-28), 54 (fig. 32), 56 (taxonomy, biology, Kenya (Massawa) = Eritrea).

**Brachymeria Beccarii* sp.n.: MASI 1929: 120 (key), 142 (description ♀, Massawa).

Chalcis beccarii (MASI, 1929): SCHMITZ 1946: 26 (taxonomy, catalogue Afrotropical region), 36 (key).

Brachymeria beccarii MASI, 1929: GHESQUIÈRE 1946: 373 (footnote: taxonomy).

Brachymeria beccarii MASI, 1929: KERRICH & RAMDAS MENON 1949: 211 (taxonomy).

Brachymeria beccarii MASI, 1929: NARENDRAN 1985: 87 (synonym of *Brachymeria podagrica* (FABRICIUS, 1787)). Publication not seen.

Brachymeria beccarii MASI, 1929: DELVARE & HUCHET 2017: 54 (fig. 39), 56 (synonym, Kenya (Massawa) = Eritrea).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Ghinda, Keren, Massawa, Sabarguma.

Brachymeria amenocles, which is widely distributed in the Afrotropical region, is also recorded from Ethiopia. The type locality Massawa has been assigned erroneously to Somalia by NARENDRAN & ACHTERBERG (2016: 74) and to Kenya by DELVARE & HUCHET (2017).

***Brachymeria erythraea* MASI, 1936**

Brachymeria erythraea sp.n.: MASI 1936: 120 (description ♀, Ghinda).

Brachymeria (Brachymeria) erythraea MASI, 1936: MASI 1940: 260 (key, Eritrea (Masi 1936)).

Chalcis erythraea (MASI, 1929): SCHMITZ 1946: 27 (taxonomy, catalogue Afrotropical region).

Brachymeria erythraea MASI, 1936: GHESQUIÈRE 1946: 373 (footnote: taxonomy).

Brachymeria erythraea MASI, 1936: KERRICH & RAMDAS MENON 1949: 211 (taxonomy).

Brachymeria erythraea MASI, 1936: ABATE 1991: 9 (parasitoid-host catalogue Ethiopia: Ethiopia = Eritrea).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Ghinda.

Brachymeria erythraea is known only from Eritrea.

***Brachymeria feae* MASI, 1929**

Brachymeria feae MASI, 1929: MASI 1936: 121 (taxonomy, Báresa (near Ghinda)).

Brachymeria (Brachymeria) leighi var. *feae* MASI, 1929: MASI 1940: 263 (taxonomy, key, Eritrea (MASI 1936)).

Chalcis feae (MASI, 1929): SCHMITZ 1946: 27 (taxonomy, catalogue Afrotropical region), 32 (key).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Báresa.

Brachymeria feae is also recorded from Angola, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa and Togo.

***Brachymeria kassalensis* (KIRBY, 1886)**

Brachymeria kassalensis (KIRBY, 1886): MASI 1936: 122 (taxonomy, Asmara).

Chalcis kassalensis KIRBY, 1886: SCHMITZ 1946: 27 (taxonomy, catalogue Afrotropical region: East Africa including Eritrea), 35 (key).

Brachymeria kassalensis (KIRBY, 1886): ABATE 1991: 9 (parasitoid-host catalogue Ethiopia: Eritrea part of Ethiopia).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Asmara.

Brachymeria kassalensis, which is known from the Afrotropical (widely distributed), Oriental (India) and Palaearctic (Israel, Iran) regions, is also recorded from Ethiopia and Sudan.

***Brachymeria leighi intermedia* MASI, 1940**

Brachymeria (Brachymeria) Leighi intermedia var.n.: MASI 1940: 262 (taxonomy ♂, Eritrea without exact locality (MASI 1936)), 263 (key, description (♂), Eritrea without exact locality (MASI 1936)).

**Brachymeria leighi* (CAMERON, 1927 (!)): MASI 1936: 121 (taxonomy, biology, Ghinda, Nefasit). *Chalcis leighi* CAMERON, 1907: SCHMITZ 1946: 27 (taxonomy, catalogue Afrotropical region partim: only Eritrea).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Ghinda, Nefasit.

Brachymeria leighi intermedia MASI, 1940 is a junior homonym of *Brachymeria intermedia* (NEES AB ESENBECK, 1834). As a new replacement name is necessary, the taxonomic status of the taxon should be checked.

***Brachymeria mochii* MASI, 1936**

Brachymeria Mochii sp.n.: MASI 1936: 119 (description ♀ ♂, Ghinda).

Chalcis mochii (MASI, 1929): SCHMITZ 1946: 27 (taxonomy, catalogue Afrotropical region), 29 (key).

Brachymeria mochii MASI, 1936: GHESQUIÈRE 1946: 373 (footnote: taxonomy).

Brachymeria mochii MASI, 1936: KERRICH & RAMDAS MENON 1949: 211 (taxonomy).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Ghinda.

Brachymeria mochii is recorded only from Eritrea.

***Brachymeria somalica* MASI, 1929**

Brachymeria somalica MASI, 1929: MASI 1936: 122 (taxonomy, Asmara).

Brachymeria (Brachymeria) somalica MASI, 1929: MASI 1940: 262 (key, Eritrea (MASI 1936)).

Chalcis somalica MASI, 1929: SCHMITZ 1946: 28 (taxonomy, catalogue Afrotropical region), 29 (key).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Asmara.

Brachymeria somalica is known from the Afrotropical (Eritrea, Somalia) and the Palaearctic regions.

***Brachymeria* sp. 1**

Brachymeria sp.: ZAVATTARI 1939: 427 (Asmara).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Asmara.

***Brachymeria* sp. 2**

Brachymeria sp.: NASTASI & ANDEMESKEL 1968: Publication not seen.

Brachymeria sp.: ABATE 1991: 9 (parasitoid-host catalogue Ethiopia: Ethiopia = Eritrea).

H o s t : Lepidoptera, Erebidae: *Eublemma versicolor* (WALKER, 1864) (NASTASI & ANDEMESKEL 1968).

Subfamily *Cratocentrinae*

Cratocentrus maculicollis (MASI, 1944)

Cerachalcis maculicollis n.sp.: MASI 1944: 122 (key ♀), 132 (description ♀, Eritrea without exact locality).

Cratocentrus maculicollis (MASI, 1944): STEFFAN 1959: 311 (key ♀), 314 (taxonomy, Eritrea (MASI 1944)).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : no exact locality.

Cratocentrus maculicollis is also recorded from the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Subfamily *Dirhininae*

Dirhinus excavatus DALMAN, 1818

Dirhinus excavatus DALMAN, 1818: MASI 1936: 129 (taxonomy, Ghinda, Keren, Sabarguma).

Dirhinus excavatus DALMAN, 1818: SCHMITZ 1946: 168 (catalogue Afrotropical region: East Africa including Eritrea), 169 (key).

Dirhinus excavatus DALMAN, 1818: MASI 1947: 43 (taxonomy), 45 (taxonomy), 46 (taxonomy, footnote: taxonomy), 47 (taxonomy, Eritrea without exact locality), 52 (taxonomy, figs 5a-d), 55 (key).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Ghinda, Keren, Sabarguma.

Dirhinus excavatus and *Dirhinus anthracia* WALKER, 1846 have been misinterpreted by many authors. Z. Bouček recognized, that both species are different, and intended to write a paper on the Afrotropical species of the genus *Dirhinus* DALMAN, 1818 (BOUČEK & NARENDRAN 1981: 240). As this paper was never published, the specific assignment of the Eritrean record is uncertain.

Pseudeniaca lyncaea MASI, 1936

Pseudeniaca lyncaea sp.n.: MASI 1936: 126 (typus generis by monotypy, description ♀, Ghinda), 127 (figs a-c).

Pseudeniaca lyncaea (!) MASI, 1936: SCHMITZ 1946: 174 (typus generis, key, taxonomy, Eritrea (MASI 1936)).

Pseudeniaca lyncaea MASI, 1936: MASI 1947: 45 (taxonomy), 76 (taxonomy), 77 (taxonomy), 78 (key, Eritrea without exact locality).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Ghinda.

Pseudeniaca lyncaea is also recorded from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda.

Subfamily *Epitraninae*

Epitranus observator WALKER, 1862

Epitranus observator WALKER, 1842: STEFFAN 1957: 71 (catalogue Democratic Republic of the Congo), 76 (key), 77 (fig. 1), 79 (fig. 13), 90 (taxonomy, description ♀ ♂, Eritrea (MASI 1936)).

**Anacryptus Bayoni* sp.n.: MASI 1936: 124 (description ♀ ♂, Ghinda).

Epitranus bayoni (MASI, 1936): MASI 1940: 268 (taxonomy, catalogue Afrotropical region (Eritrea, Uganda), footnote: taxonomy).

Anacryptus bayoni MASI, 1936: SCHMITZ 1946: 143 (catalogue Afrotropical region), 145 (key), 160 (taxonomy, description ♀, Eritrea (MASI 1936)), pls. 14 (fig. 10), 15 (figs 1-3).

Anacryptus bayoni MASI, 1936: STEFFAN 1957: 90 (synonymy based on original description).

Anacryptus bayoni MASI, 1936: BOUČEK 1982: 586 (synonym, lectotype designation (Uganda)).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Ghinda.

Epitranus observator is known from the Afrotropical (Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Sierra Leone, Uganda) and Oriental regions.

Subfamily Haltichellinae

***Antrocephalus ferrierei* (MASI, 1936)**

Stomatoceras Ferrierei sp n.: MASI 1936: 132 (description ♀, Ghinda).

Stomatoceras ferrierei (!) MASI, 1935: SCHMITZ 1946: 128 (catalogue Afrotropical region), 130 (key, taxonomy, description ♀, Eritrea (MASI 1936)), pl. 9 (figs 9-11).

Antrocephalus ferrierei MASI, 1935: NONVEILLER 1984: 119 (taxonomy). Publication not seen.

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Ghinda.

Antrocephalus ferrierei is also recorded from Cameroon and Rwanda.

***Antrocephalus* sp.**

Antrocephalus sp.: MASI 1936: 131 (taxonomy, Eritrea without exact locality).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : no exact locality.

***Hockeria gialensis* (MASI, 1932)**

Stomatoceras gialense MASI, 1932: MASI 1936: 134 (taxonomy, description ♂, Ghinda).

Stomatoceras gialense MASI, 1932: SCHMITZ 1946: 129 (catalogue Afrotropical region), 130 (key).

Hockeria gialensis (MASI, 1932): BOUČEK 1988: 43 (taxonomy).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Ghinda.

Hockeria gialensis is also known from the Palaearctic region.

***Rhynchochalcis nigra* CAMERON, 1905**

Rhynchochalcis niger CAMERON, 1905: MASI 1936: 129 (taxonomy, Asmara), 130 (taxonomy, Asmara).

D i s t r i b u t i o n : Asmara.

Rhynchochalcis nigra is also recorded from South Africa and Zimbabwe.

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Zusammenfassung

Die Familie Chalcididae ist mit 15 Arten aus fünf Unterfamilien vertreten. Die Unterfamilie Brachymeriinae ist mit der Gattung *Brachymeria* WESTWOOD, 1829 (acht Arten) nachgewiesen, die Unterfamilie Cratocentrinae mit der Gattung *Cratocentrus* CAMERON, 1907 (eine Art) und die Unterfamilie Dirhininae mit den Gattungen *Dirhinus* DALMAN, 1818 (eine Art) und *Pseudeniaca* MASI, 1936 (eine Art). Die Unterfamilie Epitraninae ist mit der Gattung *Epitranus* WALKER, 1834 (eine Art) vertreten und die Unterfamilie Haltichellinae mit den Gattungen *Antrocephalus* KIRBY, 1883 (eine Art), *Hockeria* WALKER, 1834 (eine Art) und *Rhynchochalcis* CAMERON, 1905 (eine Art).

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Author's address:

Michael MADL
Naturhistorisches Museum Wien
2. Zoologische Abteilung
Burgring 7
1010 Vienna, Austria
E-mail: michael.madl@nhm-wien.ac.at

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