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A New Species of Genus *Fornicia* BRULLÉ

(Hymenoptera, Braconidae, Microgasterinae)

With 5 Figures

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Abstract. One new species of *Fornicia* BRULLÉ from India is described. A key is provided for the Indian species of the genus.

The genus *Fornicia* BRULLÉ is one of the oldest genera within Braconidae, described in 1846 from Brazil. CUSHMAN (1929) placed it in subfamily Microgasterinae. Up to now a total of 19 species have been recorded from tropical region, 10 from Oriental region of which only one is known to India. In the present studies one new species has been recognized from India. All the Oriental species were not available for study hence only Indian species have been taken into account and a key is provided for them.

Genus *Fornicia* BRULLÉ

Fornicia BRULLÉ, 1846, Hist. nat. Insectes. Hym. 4: 511; SZEPLIGETI, 1904, Gen. Ins., fasc. 22b: 89.

Odontofofornicia ENDERLEIN, 1912, Ent. Mitt. (Berl.) 1: 260 (synonymized by WILKINSON, 1928).

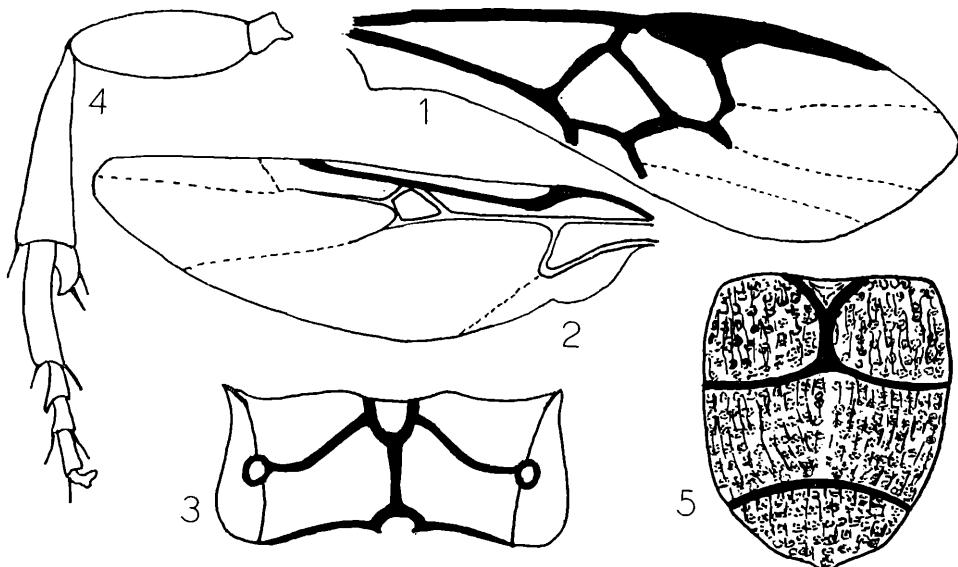
Head in dorsal view less transverse, 2x as broad as long, temples as long as high; occiput weakly excavated; antennae longer than body, its penultimate joint distinctly 3.5 times as long as broad; mesonotum with a low median longitudinal carina, its surface cornocious with weak and sparse punctures; notalix and margin of mesonotum rugose; scutellum bicuspidate; metanotum with an upward directed spine; inner tarsus half as long as hind basitarsus; metacarp not reaching tip of radial cell; nervellus of hind wing sigmoid; carapace as long as thorax, scabrous with longitudinal elements; sutures between 1-2, 2-3 crenulate.

Key to the Indian species of *Fornicia* BRULLÉ

1. Metacarp nearly as long as stigma; medio-longitudinal ridge in the first tergite, does not extend to 2nd and third. Mesonotum moderately punctate. 1. *andamanensis* sp. n.
2. Metacarp slightly but distinctly longer than stigma. Medio-longitudinal ridge of first two tergites not extending to third tergite. Mesonotum less strongly sculptured
2. *ceylonica* WILKINSON

Fornicia andamanensis sp. n.

Female: This species is distinguished from the other species of the genus by having first tergite with a median longitudinal carina that does not extend to 2nd and third; metacarp nearly as long as stigma; third tergite with a distinct apical notch.



Figs. 1–5. *Fornicia andamanensis* sp. n., ♀. 1: fore wing – 2: hind wing – 3: propodeum – 4: hind leg – 5: abdominal tergites forming carapace.

Head triangular; interocellar distance equal to the ocello-ocular distance, front ocellar distance $0.25x$ of interocellar distance; face with minute shallow punctures, clypeo-facial suture lying above the line joining eyes below; malar space $2x$ the basal width of mandibles; occiput smooth and shiny; maxillary palp five segmented, 2nd segment swollen basally; pronotal collar with shallow coalescent punctures; pronotum with a median excavation, carinated dorsoventrally, minutely punctate apically; mesonotum moderately punctate with shallow punctures, with a fine median longitudinal carina; mesosternum minutely punctate; mesopleurae minutely punctate; scutellum with coalescent punctures, apically notched, postero-lateral area of scutellum glabrous, longitudinally carinated; metanotum with median subparallel carinae and lateral four carinae on either sides; metapleurae strongly punctate with broad, coalescent punctures; propodeum with basal U-shaped carina extending posteriorly into a median longitudinal carina; lateral area carinated with oblique carinae, demarcating anterior shallowly punctate area, spiracle elliptical in shape located on the pleural suture; radial vein of fore wing longer than the width of pterostigma; metacarp not extending up to the tip of radial cell; anal vein separated from the wing margin at its closest by $5x$ of its own width; cubitillan cell of hind wing rhomboidal; radiellian cell with a distinct cross vein; submediellian cell $1.5x$ as long as broad; vannal lobe concave beyond its widest part, without a hair fringe; nervellus of hind wing sigmoid shaped, vein cubitella not straight; abdomen short and stout, more or less like a carapace, strongly punctate, rugose, reticulately sculptured; first abdominal tergite marginal apically with a median longitudinal carina bifurcating basally and extending up to lateral margins; a prominent carina demarcates first tergite from 2nd; 2nd and third tergites with a medio-longitudinal tumescence; 3rd tergite distinctly notched apically; abdomen highly concave ventrally forming a hollow venter; ♀ genitalia inwardly directed; punctures are so deep and coalescent along lateral margin of abdomen that they give it grooved appearance. Legs short and stout; hind coxae minutely punctate, comma-shaped, apically with a notch; hind femur broad, as long as hind tibia; apical $\frac{1}{3}$ of hind tibia set with setae; tibial spurs

unequal; hind metatarsus 0.5x as long as hind tibia having setae along ventral margin; claws simple.

Black: Wing veins, pterostigma brown; palpi pale-yellow, legs reddish-brown; tarsi deep reddish-brown; tibial spurs pale-white; basal half of hind tibia yellowish.

Length ♀ 5.0 mm; fore wing 5.0 mm; hind wing 4.0 mm.

Holotype ♀, India: Port Blair, 18/28. III. 1925, P.V. Issac collection. Allotype ♂ same data as above. Paratypes 4 ♀♀, same data as of holotype.

Distribution India: Andaman.

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