

***Haustagaster* SZABÓ, 1979 new synonym of *Synopeas* FÖRSTER, 1856,
with redescrptions of four species
(Insecta: Hymenoptera: Proctotrupoidea: Platygasteridae)**

With 20 figures

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Abstract. The genus *Haustagaster* SZABÓ, 1979 is a new synonym of *Synopeas* FÖRSTER, 1856. The four species hitherto assigned to *Haustagaster* are redescrbed; *H. punctigaster* (SZABÓ, 1981) is a new synonym of *H. compressiventris* (SZABÓ, 1981).

Introduction

As noted by VLUG (1995), J. B. SZABÓ described his genus *Haustagaster* twice: In SZABÓ (1979) only the new species *H. dentiscutellaris* (from Mongolia) was included, and no diagnosis of the genus was given, but this was done when he described the genus as new again in SZABÓ (1981), and three other new species (all from Hungary) were included – *H. compressiventris*, *dentiscutum*, and *punctigaster*, with *compressiventris* as the type of the genus *Haustagaster* SZABÓ, 1981. This genus is then an invalid name which, as pointed out by VLUG (1995), must be replaced by *Haustagaster* SZABÓ, 1979 which has *dentiscutellaris* as type.

After having examined SZABÓ's entire type material of *Haustagaster* (4 holotypes and 1 paratype) I must conclude that they all belong to the large genus *Synopeas* FÖRSTER - the laterally compressed metasoma which was mentioned as the key generic feature by SZABÓ is a well known morphological character from the very common NW-European species *S. rhanis* (WALKER, 1835), as well as from *S. hyllus* (WALKER, 1835), *S. figitiformis* THOMSON, 1859, *S. convexus* THOMSON, 1859, and others. Perhaps the species with this key character could be placed as a subgenus in *Synopeas*, but it is not certain that they form a monophyletic group, e.g. the dorsal structure of mesosoma is rather different between *S. rhanis* and *S. hyllus*, cf. VLUG (1985), and also between *S. dentiscutellaris* and *dentiscutum* and *compressiventris*, cf. below.

SZABÓ did not illustrate his descriptions, but the simple drawings in the present paper should give the essential characters for identifying the species. In addition, below is given some corrections to SZABÓ's inaccurate descriptions – his measurements or statements are given in brackets after my observations. It appears that two general mistakes are made by SZABÓ in his descriptions of species of "*Haustagaster*" (as well as in his many other descriptions of new taxa): He overestimates length:width ratios, and interprets reticulate-coriaceous sculpture as punctuation (perhaps due to use of too low magnification).

Synopeas compressiventris* (SZABÓ, 1981) comb. n. (Figs. 1–5)Haustagaster compressiventris* SZABÓ (1981: 287), ♀

Head reticulate-coriaceous (“with fine and indistinct punctures”), from above 1.7x as wide as long (2.5x). OOL hardly longer than diameter of an ocellus (4x as long). Scape about 4.6x as long as wide (8x). A3–A4 each hardly twice as long as wide (A3 2.5x, A4 3x), A5–A7 each very slightly longer than wide (1.5x), A8–A9 each slightly transverse (A8 1.5x as long as wide). Propleurae faintly reticulate-coriaceous (smooth). Mesoscutum finely reticulate-coriaceous (“with very fine and indistinct punctures”). Metasoma 4.0x as long as wide (2.25x), 1.7x as long as head and mesosoma combined; large sternite (except anteriorly) as well as the following sternites faintly reticulate (“punctuation of sternite rather indistinct”). Length 1.4 mm (1 mm).

Material examined: Holotype and paratype in Hungarian Natural History Museum (Hym. Typ. Nos. 3014–5).

Discussion: Close to *S. hyllus* (WALKER, 1835), but this species has metasoma less narrow (in dorsal view) and less pointed (in lateral view) than *compressiventris*, cf. VLUG (1985). Also metasoma of *S. figitiformis* THOMSON, 1859 (the type of which I have examined) is less narrow than in *compressiventris*, and *figitiformis* has apical tergites distinctly sculptured (in *compressiventris* they are almost smooth).

Synopeas dentiscutellaris* (SZABÓ, 1979) comb. n. (Figs. 6–10)Haustagaster dentiscutellaris* SZABÓ (1979: 178), ♀.

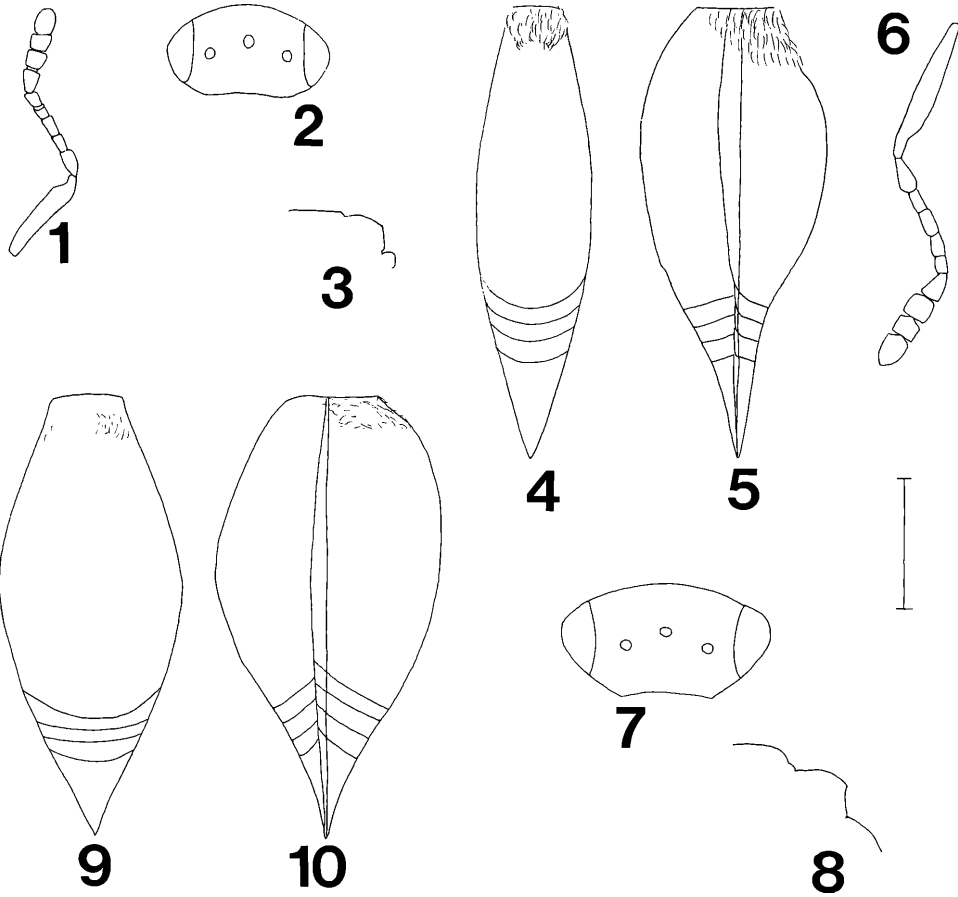
Head densely reticulate-coriaceous (“punctured”), from above 2.0x as wide as long (3x). Lateral ocelli separated from inner orbits by hardly 2x their diameter (3x). Scape 6.6x as long as wide (8x). A2 about 2x as long as wide (3x), A3 hardly 2x as long as wide (7x!), A4 2x as long as wide (3x); A5 about 1.5x as long as wide (4x!), hardly longer than A6 (almost twice as long); A7 slightly longer than wide (about twice as long as wide), A8 about as long as wide (almost 1.5x as long as wide), A10 1.5x as long as wide (2x). Mesoscutum finely reticulate-coriaceous (“finely densely punctate”), without (with) notauli. Propleurae reticulate, mesopleurae smooth (“Pleura with dense, fine punctures”). Scutellum in dorsal view smooth and bare medially. Metasoma 1.2x as long as head and mesosoma combined, 1.2x as high as wide. Sternites – except S2 anteriorly – with strong reticulation (“second sternite with dense, fine punctures”). Length 1.6 mm (1.5 mm).

Material examined Holotype in Hungarian Natural History Museum (Hym. Typ. No. 3041).

Discussion Close to *S. rhanis* (WALKER, 1835), but this species has scutellum somewhat differently shaped, and metasoma not higher than wide, cf. VLUG (1985).

Synopeas dentiscutum* (SZABÓ, 1981) comb. n. (Figs. 11–15)Haustagaster dentiscutum* SZABÓ (1981: 286), ♀

Head reticulate-coriaceous (“with fine and dense punctation”). OOL hardly longer than diameter of an ocellus (3.5x as long!). A2 2.4x as long as wide (3x), A3 about one and two-thirds times as long as wide (about 3x). Propleurae reticulate-coriaceous (finely punctate). Metasoma 1.5x as



Figs. 1–5: *Synopeas compressiventris* (SZABÓ, 1981), female holotype. 1: antenna, 2: head in dorsal view, 3: scutellum in lateral view, 4: metasoma in dorsal view, 5: metasoma in lateral view. – Figs. 6–10: *Synopeas dentiscutellaris* (SZABÓ, 1979), female holotype. 6: antenna, 7: head in dorsal view, 8: scutellum in lateral view, 9: metasoma in dorsal view, 10: metasoma in lateral view. – Scale bar = 0.25 mm.

long as head and mesosoma combined, 1.2x as high as wide, in lateral view 2.3x as long as high (2.5x). Length 1.5 mm (1.2 mm).

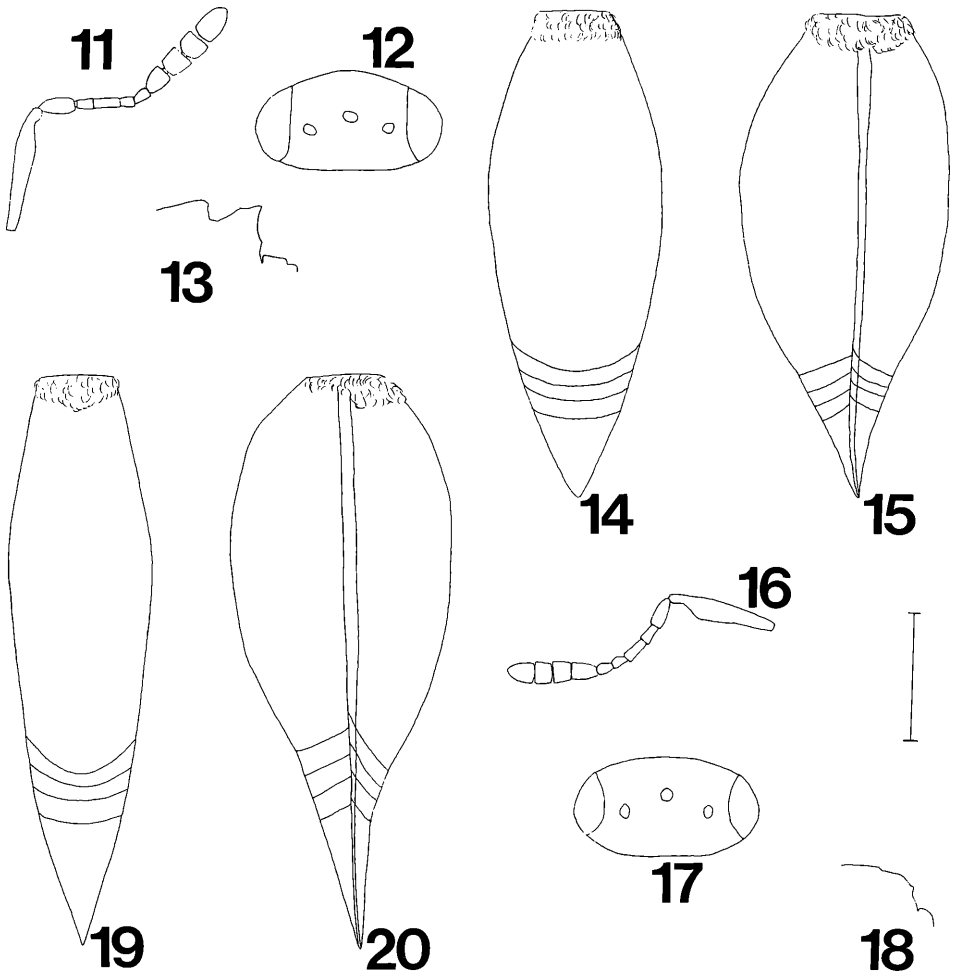
Material examined: Holotype in Hungarian Natural History Museum (Hym. Typ. No. 3013).

Discussion Very close to *S. rhanis* (WALKER, 1835), but this species has slightly differently shaped scutellum, and metasoma not higher than wide, cf. VLUG (1985). *S. dentiscutum* has antennae, head, scutellum, and metasoma only slightly differently shaped than *S. dentiscutellaris*.

***Synopeas punctigaster* (SZABÓ, 1981) comb. n. (Figs. 16–20)**

Haustagaster punctigaster SZABÓ (1981: 286), ♀.

Head in dorsal view 1.9x as wide as long (about 1.5x), evenly reticulate-coriaceous (“with fine, faint and dense punctation”). Eye hardly 1.5x as long as wide (2x). OOL hardly twice (thrice) as



Figs. 11–15: *Synopeas dentiscutum* (SZABÓ, 1981), female holotype. 11: antenna, 12: head in dorsal view, 13: scutellum in lateral view, 14: metasoma in dorsal view, 15: metasoma in lateral view. – Figs. 16–20: *Synopeas punctigaster* (SZABÓ, 1981), female holotype. 16: antenna, 17: head in dorsal view, 18: scutellum in lateral view, 19: metasoma in dorsal view, 20: metasoma in lateral view. – Scale bar = 0.25 mm.

long as diameter of an ocellus. Scape 5.1x as long as wide (about 8x). A4 hardly 2.5x as long as wide (3.5x), A5 one and two-thirds times as long as wide (2x), A7 1.5x as long as wide (2x). Mesoscutum finely reticulate-coriaceous (“with fine and dense punctation”), notauli indicated posteriorly. Scutellum with a fine tooth (with “no spine or denticule”). Propleurae finely reticulate-coriaceous (“with fine punctation”). Metasoma 1.9x as long as head and mesosoma combined, 1.5x as high as wide. Sternites – except anterior part of S2 – reticulate-coriaceous (“sternite with dense punctation similar to further sternites”). Length 1.6 mm (1.2 mm).

Material examined: Holotype in Hungarian Natural History Museum (Hym. Typ. No. 3012).

Discussion *S. punctigaster* is just a larger and (thus) stronger sculptured specimen of *S. compressiventris*. As the name "*punctigaster*" is rather misleading (as the sculpture is reticulate-coriaceous) I select here the name *S. compressiventris* with *S. punctigaster* as a synonym (**syn. n.**).

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