PTEROMALIDAE (HYMENOPTERA: CHALCIDOOIDEA) NEW TO ROMANIA (III)

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Abstract. The genera Hyperimerus Girault and Holcaeus Thomson, and the species Hyperimerus pusillus (Walker) (Asaphinae), Macroglenes decipiens (Graham), M. penetrans (Kirby) (Pireninae), Coelopisthia pachycera Masi, Holcaeus compressus (Walker) and Stenomalina illudens (Walker) (Pteromalinae) are recorded for the first time in Romania. The material was collected from several national parks and nature reserves, as well as from other locations.

Keywords: Hymenoptera, Chalcidoidea, Pteromalidae, genera and species new to Romania

Rezumat. Pteromalidae (Hymenoptera: Chalcidoidea) noi pentru România (III). Genurile Hyperimerus Girault și Holcaeus Thomson, precum și speciile Hyperimerus pusillus (Walker) (Asaphinae), Macroglenes decipiens (Graham), M. penetrans (Kirby) (Pireninae), Coelopisthia pachycera Masi, Holcaeus compressus (Walker) și Stenomalina illudens (Walker) (Pteromalinae) sunt citate pentru prima dată în fauna României. Materialul a fost colectat din mai multe parcuri naționale și rezervații naturale, precum și din alte zone.

Cuvinte cheie: Hymenoptera, Chalcidoidea, Pteromalidae, genuri și specii noi pentru România

Introduction

The pteromalids are small parasitic wasps feeding as larvae on the immature stages of other species of insects, many of them phytophagous. Thus, they play an important role in most of the ecosystems, mainly as secondary or tertiary consumers.

Six species of pteromalids new to Romania are listed in this note. The examined material, as well as general remarks regarding the geographical distribution and the hosts of the species, is presented. More detailed information on these aspects, as well as the synonyms for each species, can be found in Graham (1969) and Noyes (2003).

Material and Methods

All the individuals were collected using an entomological net, between 1999 and 2004, mostly by the author. The material was collected from several protected areas (Retezat and Piatra Craiului National Parks, and Valea lui David Nature Reserve), as well as from other locations.

Results and Discussion

Subfamily Asaphinae

Hyperimerus pusillus (Walker)


Remarks: This is the first record of the genus *Hyperimerus* in Romania. *H. pusillus* is a Holarctic species attacking various Pseudococcidae and Psyllidae (Homoptera) (Noyes, 2003). The presence of this species at such a high altitude was probably due to the wind.

**Subfamily Pireninae**

*M. decipiens* (Graham)


**Material examined:** Valea lui David Nature Reserve (Iaşi county) (steppe vegetation): 3♀ and 1♂ 11.VI.1999 (L. Fusu).

**Remarks:** Unusually large eyes characterize the males of this species. So far, *M. decipiens* was known only from Britain (Graham, 1969), so Romania is now the easternmost limit of its geographical distribution. The hosts are unknown.

*M. penetrans* (Kirby)


**Material examined:** Popricani (Iaşi county): 1♀ and 1♂ 8.VI.2001 (M.-D. Mitroiu).

**Remarks:** The compound eyes of the *M. penetrans* males are even larger than those of *M. decipiens*. This species has a Holarctic distribution and attacks species of Cecidomyiidae (Diptera) (Noyes, 2003).

**Subfamily Pteromalinae**

*Coelopisthia pachycera* Masi


**Material examined:** Fălticeni (Suceava county), on grasses in apple-tree orchard: 1♀ 12.VIII.2003 (M.-D. Mitroiu); Retezat National Park (Hunedoara county) – Retezat Peak (2485 m): 1♂ 13.VIII.2004 (M.-D. Mitroiu); Retezat National Park – Lolaia Ridge (1700-2200 m): 1♂ 13.VIII.2004 (M.-D. Mitroiu).

**Remarks:** This species is spread from Western to Eastern Europe and it is known as a primary parasitoid of various species of lepidopterans (Noyes, 2003). As in the case of *H. pusillus*, the wind was probably responsible for the presence of this species at high altitudes.

*H. compressus* (Walker)


**Material examined:** Piatra Craiului National Park (Braşov county) – the hunting chalet: 1♀ 21.VIII.2003 (I. Popescu).
Remarks: This is the first record of the genus *Holcaeus* in Romania. *H. compressus* is spread from North-Western to Central Europe and its hosts are unknown (Noyes, 2003).

*Stenomalina illudens* (Walker)


**Material examined:** Avrâmeni (Botoşani county) (meadow): 1 ♀ 30.VIII.1999 (I. Andriescu).

**Remarks:** *S. illudens* has a Palearctic distribution. The hosts are unknown, but the species was reared from barley straws (Graham & Claridge, 1965).

**Conclusions**

Two genera (*Hyperimerus* and *Holcaeus*) and six species of pteromalids are recorded for the first time in Romania: *Hyperimerus pusillus* (Asaphinae), *Macroglenes decipiens*, *M. penetrans* (Pireninae), *Coelopisthia pachycera*, *Holcaeus compressus* and *Stenomalina illudens* (Pteromalinae).

Two species (*H. pusillus* and *M. penetrans*) have a Holarctic distribution, while the rest of the species are recorded from the Palearctic region.

**Acknowledgements**

I thank my colleagues Dr. I. Popescu and L. Fusu, ”Al. I. Cuza” University, for the donation of some specimens.

**References**


