

Hymenopteran parasitoids associated with spiders in Florida

Julieta Brambila and Gregory A. Evans

Florida State Collection of Arthropods
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
P.O. Box 147100
Gainesville, Florida 32614-7100

Abstract. Five different parasitoid species associated with spiders are reported from collections made in Florida and Georgia.

Introduction

The parasitoid fauna associated with spiders is not well known. Several field collections of spiders were made, brought into the laboratory and held for parasitoid emergence. Most specimens listed below are deposited in the Florida State Collection of Arthropods; some representative specimens were sent to specialists to confirm the identity of parasitoids. The log number (#) for each collection refers to the number issued to the sample in the entomological database at the FSCA.

Aprostocetus new species (Chalcidoidea: EULOPHIDAE: Tetrastichinae)

USA: Florida, Dade County, Homestead, Fruit and Spice Park, 24801 SW 187 Ave, 25 November 2000, J. Brambila, ex spider egg case on *Haematoxylon campechianum* (logwood), #E2000-4516, 15 specimens. Specimens from this collection were sent to Dr. J. LaSalle (CSIRO, Australia) for identification.

Comastichus zopheros LaSalle (Chalcidoidea: EULOPHIDAE)

USA: Florida, Hernando County, at Lake McKethan Recreational Area, on Highway 41, near Brooksville, 10 January 2001, J. Brambila, from spider egg cocoon, #E2001-152. Five parasitoid individuals emerged beginning on January 14, 2001. This species has been reported from Costa Rica, Mexico and Dade and Monroe Counties in Florida (LaSalle 1993). This collection represents the northernmost extent of its known geographic range.

Horismenus cupreus (Ashmead) (Chalcidoidea: EULOPHIDAE)

USA: Georgia, Decatur Co., Chattahoochee Park, Lake Seminole, 23 December 2000, J. Brambila, inside spider web on wax myrtle, *Myrica cerifera*.

Eurytoma lactrodicti Fullaway (Chalcidoidea: EURYTOMIDAE)

USA: Florida, Dade County, Homestead, Tropical Research and Education Center, 18905 SW 280 Street, 6 August 2000, J. Brambila, ex. egg cocoons of *Lactrodictus geometricus* (brown widow spider, Theridiidae), #E2001-2586. Eight individuals emerged from the sample. Dr. Z. Boucek (The Natural History Museum, London) confirmed the identity of the species. This collection represents a new continental record for species which was described from Hawaii.

Idris sp. (Proctotrupoidea: SCELIONIDAE: Scelioninae)

1. USA: Florida, Dade Co., Miami, 13601 Old Cutler Road, 3 August 2000, J. Brambila, ex. eggs of *Lyssomanes viridis* (Salticidae), on *Persea americana* (avocado), #E2000-2746. Three specimens emerged from this sample; their identity was confirmed by Dr. N. Johnson (Ohio State University). The Neotropical fauna of this genus is not well known and is in need of revision.
2. USA: Florida, Hernando Co., at Lake McKethan Recreational Area, on Highway 41 near Brooksville, 10 January 2001, J. Brambila, ex. spider, #2001-171, 5 specimens.
3. USA: Georgia, Decatur, Chattahoochee Park, Lake Seminole, 23 December 2000, J. Brambila, inside spider web on wax myrtle, *Myrica cerifera*, 1 specimen.

Acknowledgments

We thank G. B. Edwards, Florida State Collection of Arthropods, for identifying the spiders and Charles C. Porter, Lionel A. Stange, and M. C. Thomas for reviewing the manuscript. This is Entomology Contribution No. 923.

References cited

- LaSalle, J. 1993. North American genera of Tetrastichinae (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae). *Journal of Natural History* 28: 109-236.