

**PARATARUMA, A NEW GENUS OF NEOTROPICAL
CRABRONINI (HYMENOPTERA, SPHECIDAE)***

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Crabronini are a diverse group of wasps that are found world wide. Typical members of this tribe can be recognized by the single forewing submarginal cell, large cuboidal head and ventrally converging eyes.

The new genus, *Parataruma*, is found in lowland neotropical forest in widely separated localities. This distribution can probably be explained in several ways. Most of the neotropical lowland forest has been poorly collected, and much of it has been destroyed. In addition, these wasps are small and darkly colored, making them difficult to observe.

Specimens were obtained from the following institutions: British Museum of Natural History, London (BMNH); Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts (MCZ); Entomology Museum, University of California, Davis (UCD), and the U.S. National Museum, Washington, D.C. (USNM).

***Parataruma* Kimsey, new genus**

Generic diagnosis

Head (figs. 3, 4): Eyes asetose, inner orbits converging strongly below; scapal basin smooth or finely sculptured, laterally margined by carinae; genal carina well-developed, following ocular margin to vertex; orbital foveae absent; occipital carina well-developed, flanged and foveate; antennal sockets touching each other and ocular margin; male flagellomeres II–III modified; palpal formula 6:4; mandibles with a tooth on inner margin and single apical notch; ocelli large, 1.5 times as wide as antennal sockets, forming an isolateral triangle.

Thorax (fig. 1): Pronotal collar with transverse anterior and posterior carinae, sharply angulate laterally; scutum longitudinally

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ridged without anterior transverse carina; notauli indicated by carinae; admedian lines absent; scutellum with deep prescutellar sulcus; metanotum simple; postspiracular carina well developed; omalus well-developed, continuous with acetabular carina; verticaulus short, ending in a ventral depression; hypersternaulus and mesosternaulus absent; forewing recurrent vein joining submarginal cell almost medially; jugal lobe subequal in length to submedial cell; legs simple; propodeum finely sculptured, dorsal enclosure limited by foveate sulcus, lateral propodeal carina present.

Abdomen: Sessile; female pygidium forming a sharp, straight medial ridge, with deep submedial notch, terminating in a sharp process, surrounded by stout setae (figs. 7-9).

Generotype: *Parataruma leclercqi* Kimsey, original designation.

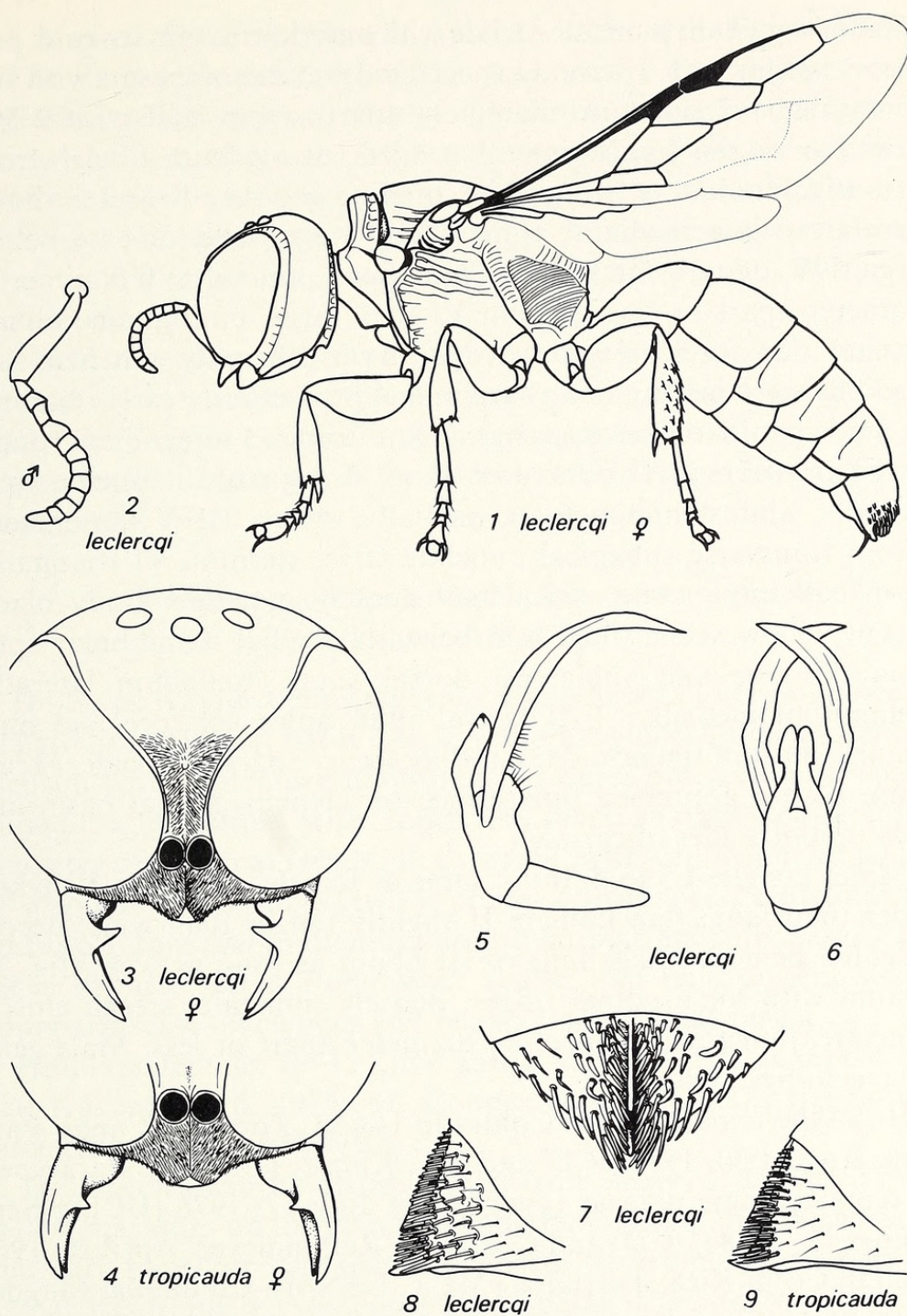
Discussion.

Parataruma most closely resembles *Foxita* and *Taruma*, based on the carinate scapal basin, wing venation, narrow female pygidium, apically notched mandible and absence of the sternaulus. In fact, this genus will key out to *Taruma* in Bohart and Menke (1976:374). However, several characteristics of *Parataruma* are unusual and immediately distinguish members of this genus from all other crabronines, including *Foxita* and *Taruma*. These characteristics are the well-developed genal and scapal carinae, the lack of any transverse carinae on the face and the peculiar female pygidium, which has been reduced to a narrow convex ridge and pointed apical projection surrounded by papillae-like setae.

***Parataruma leclercqi* Kimsey, new species**

Figures 1-3, 5-8

Holotype female: Length 5 mm; head finely and densely punctate, except along occipital and genal carinae; face with bulging brow, scapal basin punctation obscured by pubescence; clypeal margin medially produced into a rounded lobe subtended beneath by a tuft of setae on either side; flagellomeres I-II 1.3 times as long as wide; flagellomere III as long as wide; flagellomeres IV-IX wider than long; flagellomere X 1.5 times as long as wide; mandible with tooth on inner margin longer than diameter of antennal socket (fig. 3); pronotum foveate along anterior and posterior carinae; scutum finely punctate-striate with medial and lateral carinae and raised



Figs. 1-3, 5-8 *Parataruma leclercqi*. Figs. 4, 9. *Parataruma tropicauda*. Fig. 1. Lateral view of female. Fig. 2. Male antenna. Figs. 3-4. Complete and partial front view of female face. Figs. 5-6. Lateral and dorsal views of male genital capsule. Figs. 7-9. Female pygidium, dorsal (7) and lateral (8, 9) views.

notauli; scutellum punctate-striate with anterior margin foveate, posterior margin with 13 evenly spaced ridges; mesopleuron with fine punctures, 1–2 puncture diameters apart, upper half with 9 longitudinal ridges; hypoepimeron ridged; propodeum finely striate laterally, enclosure with deep medial groove, foveate above, punctate-striate medially, transversely ridged and foveate below; terga I–V densely and finely punctate, punctures 0.5 puncture diameter apart or less; tergum VI with large, contiguous, almost foveate punctures; pygidial ridge sharp, abruptly notched sub-medially, terminating in a sharp apical projection, nearly obscured by dense papillae-like setae (figs. 7, 8); sternum I integument rough, irregular; sternum II punctures about 1 puncture diameter apart laterally, almost impunctate medially, sterna III–V impunctate, except transverse subapical punctate strip; sternum VI triangular, basal half impunctate, apical half densely punctate. Body black, except yellow scape, flagellum beneath, medial mandibular spot, pronotal lobe and sublateral dorsal spots, scutellum laterally, metanotum medially, T–II lateral spot, apices of fore and mid-femora, most of tibiae and tarsi. Pubescence sparse and pale, except dense silvery appressed pubescence on clypeus, scapal basin and gena on both sides of carina.

Male: Length 4.5 to 5.5 mm; same as female, except F–I slightly wider than long; flagellomere II slightly longer than wide, deeply indented beneath; flagellomere III about as long as wide (fig. 2); scutum with longitudinal ridges, densely punctate; sterna closely punctate, punctures 1 puncture diameter apart or less. Male genitalia as in figs. 5–6.

Holotype female: Barro Colorado Island, Zona del Canal, Panama, August 30, 1978, R.B. and L.S. Kimsey (USNM). Paratypes, 13 females: same data as type, except July 17, 1976 (UCD), September 12, 1978 (UCD) and C. and M. Rettenmeyer, April 20, 1963 (UCD); Costa Rica, Turrialba (MCZ, USNM); Colombia, Magdalena, 10–15 km e Santa Marta, November 26, 1974, M. Cooper (BMNH); Venezuela, Zulia, Rosario, June 14, 1976, A.S. Menke and D. Vincent (USNM); Trinidad: St. George, St. Augustine, June and August 1976, F.D. Bennett and J.S. Noyes (BMNH); St. Andrew, Oropuche, June 28, 1976, J.S. Noyes (BMNH). Two males, which I am not designating as paratypes, were from: Brazil, São Paulo, Ribeirao Preto, January 7, 1968. G.E. Bohart (UCD);

and Mexico, Oaxaca, Oaxaca, April 22, 1959, H.E. Evans (UCD).

The diagnostic features of this species are the yellow female antennae; yellow spots on the mandibles, metanotum and tergum II; extensive silvery appressed setae on the scapal basin, gena and mesopleuron; large tooth on the inner margin of the mandibles and the dense setae obscuring the pygidial ridge. In addition *leclercqi* tends to be slightly larger than *tropicauda*, 5–7 mm versus 4.5–5.0 mm for *tropicauda*.

I have named this species after Jean Leclercq for two reasons: first, to acknowledge the tremendous amount of work he has done on the Crabronini. Second, and most important, because he sent me 10 specimens of this genus to describe even though he recognized them as new.

***Parataruma tropicauda* Kimsey, new species**

Figures 4 and 9

Holotype female: Only diagnostic characteristics are listed below. Length 5 mm; scapal basin coarsely and irregularly punctate; mesopleuron with 5 or more longitudinal ridges, polished with sparse punctures; mandible with tooth on inner margin shorter than diameter of antennal socket. Body black, with yellow on: underside of scape; pronotal lobes, two pronotal dorsal spots; scutellum lateral spots; fore and midfemora apically; tibiae apically, basally and inner surfaces; tarsi. Pubescence sparse and pale, except silvery appressed setae on clypeus and ocular side of genal carina.

Holotype female: 10–15 km e Santa Marta, Magdalena, Colombia, November 26, 1974, M. Cooper (BMNH). Paratype female: same data as type (BMNH).

This species can be distinguished from *leclercqi* by the lack of yellow markings on the mandibles and metanotum, half black scape and dark flagellum; the sparse or absent silvery pubescence on the scapal basin and mesopleuron and sparse setae surrounding the pygidial ridge.

The species name *tropicauda*, “ridge-tail”, refers to the peculiar pygidial ridge of the female.

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