A NEW SPECIES OF DACNUSA (HYMENOPTERA: BRACONIDAE) FROM SPAIN

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ABSTRACT: Dacnusa rodriguezi, a new species from Spain, is described and compared with allied species of the genus. The new species is a parasitoid of Chromatomyia horticola on lettuce.

The subfamily Alysiinae is subdivided traditionally into two tribes, Alysiini and Dacnusini (Shenefelt, 1974; Wharton, 1994), whose members are endoparasitoids of cyclorrhaphous Diptera. Most of the Dacnusini attack agromyzid hosts, and their classification and biology have been studied by Griffiths (1964, 1966, 1968, 1984) and Tobias (1986, summary of the Palearctic taxa with keys to genera and species, translated into English 1995).

The genus Dacnusa Haliday belongs to the latter tribe, and contains approximately 87 Holarctic species. We discovered a new species, described below, in Játiva (province of Valencia), Spain, reared from Chromatomyia horticola (Goureau), a species of agromyzid very common in the Comunitat Valenciana (Spain) on cultivated plants (Docavo et al., 1987).

Terms for body morphology and wing venation follow Griffiths (1964) and Wharton (1977, 1986).

**Dacnusa rodriguezi**, NEW SPECIES

**Female:** Head (Figs. 1, 2, 3) - 1.78-2.0 (x = 1.85) times wider than long, 1.34-1.57 (x = 1.45) times higher than long; eyes in lateral view 0.7-0.9 (x = 0.8) times as long as temples, slightly more closely approximated underneath; head width 1.79-1.95 (x = 1.87) times distance between eyes; face fairly smooth, with fine pubescence towards sides and at centre of its foremost part; clypeus width 0.62-0.72 (x = 0.69) times distance between eyes; antennae with 20-22 antennomeres; mandibles 3-toothed, weakly expanded, 0.28-0.39 (x = 0.33) times length of head, with middle tooth blunt; maxillary palpi moderately long.

**Mesosoma** (Figs. 2, 3) - 1.21-1.32 (x = 1.26) times longer than high, 1.63-1.90 (x = 1.76) times longer than wide; pronotum with a median pit; mesoscutum with dorsal pit, extensively smooth, shiny, with pubescence, although longer in its posterior 2/3, covering all its surface; notauli weak; prescutellar furrow simple; precoxal suture short, weak, slightly crenulated; metapleuron with extended pubescence, towards the posterior coxa; wrinkled propodeum cov-

Received February 12, 1997. Accepted April 10, 1997.


Figures 1 and 2. *Dacnusa rodriguezi* sp. nov. 1. Head in lateral view, female; 2, Body (except legs and wings) in side view, female.
Figure 3. Docmisa rodriquezi sp. nov. Body in dorsal view, female.
Figure 4. *Dacnusa rodriguezi* sp. nov. 4a. Anterior right wing, female. 4b. Anterior right wing, male.
Figure 5. *Dacnusa rodriguezi* sp. nov. First tergite in dorsal view, female.

Head, mesosoma and first tergite black; face black shiny; clypeus dark brown; labrum and palpi yellow; antennae dark brown, with yellowish brown scape, base of pedicel and annellus; centre of mandibles orange yellow; legs pale yellow, with slightly darkened tarsi; wings hyaline, with dark pterostigma; second and following tergites yellowish brown, becoming darker apically. Body length: 1.49-1.52 mm (\( \bar{x} = 1.50 \) mm).

**Male**: Similar to female, but pterostigma wider and dark (Fig. 4b).

**Material examined** (deposited in the Fundación Entomológica “Juan de Torres Sala” (Docavo Collection) (Valencia, Spain)): SPAIN: Valencia: Játiva, 10-VII-1988 (date host capture)/26-29-XI-1988 (emergence date of the parasitoids): Holotype, female, from puparium of *C. horticola* (host)/on *Lactuca sativa* L. (hosts food-plant). Paratypes: 4 females, 3 males, from puparia of *C. horticola* /on *L. sativa*. 
**Etymology:** This species is dedicated to José Antonio Rodriguez Docavo as a token of appreciation for his help in many entomological excursions.

**Notes:** This new species is most similar to *Dacnusa austriaca* (Fischer). *D. rodriguezi* sp. nov. is distinguished mainly by: a) mandibles weakly expanded, with middle tooth blunt; b) precoxal suture present; weakly crenulated; c) pterostigma much longer than metacarp, and d) first metasomal tergite black.

This species can be identified by using the keys of Tobias (1995: 226) with the following modifications:

**Males**

159 (144) Antennae 22-23 segmented. Mandibles 3-toothed, not expanded. First abdominal tergite dark brownish red, 1.7 times longer than wide apically. Stigma narrower than in *D. melicerta* (Fig. 140: 8). Sternauli absent. Body 1.3 mm. Parasite of *Liriomyza dracunculi* Hering, *L. artemisicola* de Meijere. Center, Central Ural; East Germany; Austria.

159' (144) Antennae 20-22 segmented. Mandibles weakly expanded, with middle tooth blunt. First abdominal tergite black, 1.3 times longer than wide apically. Stigma (Fig. 4b). Sternauli present. Body 1.5 mm. Parasite of *Chromatomyia horticola* (Goureau). Spain.

**Females**


214' (215) Antennae 20-22 segmented. Mandibles weakly expanded, with middle tooth blunt. First abdominal tergite black, fairly glabrous, 1.3 times longer than wide apically. Stigma dark brown, much longer than the metacarp (Fig. 4a). Sternauli present. Body 1.5 mm.

The remaining species of Dacnusini that have been corroborated as parasitoids of *C. horticola* (Docavo et al., 1987, 1988, 1992; Griffiths, 1984; Spencer, 1973; Tormos et al., 1989) are: *Chorebus canariensis* Griffiths; *Ch. misellus* (Marshall); *Ch. nana* (Nixon); *Ch. sativi* (Nixon); *Dacnusa areolaris* (Nees von Esenbeck); *D. laevipectus* Thomson; *D. pubescens* (Curtis); *D. nipponica* Takada and *D. sibirica* Telenga. They can be separated from the new species described through the keys of Tobias (1995) and Fischer (1994).

Detailed information on the economic importance and the biology of *C. horticola* has been given by Spencer (1973, 1990).
We wish to thank C. van Achterberg (National Museum of Natural History, Leiden), G. Griffiths (University of Alberta), M. Fischer (Naturhistorisches Museum Wien), R. Wharton (Texas A&M University) and J. Papp (Hungarian Natural History Museum), for their observations and critical reading of the manuscript. We are also very grateful to Ana Sanchis for the drawings, and the Fundación Entomológica “Torres Sala” (Valencia, Spain) for their support in this study.

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