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Hymenopteran parasitoids associated with spiders in Florida

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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: EU-LOPHIDAE: 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, #E2000-152. 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, 1 specimen.

Idri sp. (Proctotrupoidaes: SCHELIONIDAE: SCHELIONIDAE)
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 individuals 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.
3. USA: Georgia, Decatur, Chattahoochee Park, Lake Seminole, 23 December 2000, J. Brambila, inside spider web on wax myrtle, Myrica cerifera, 1 specimen.

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