

Podalonia affinis (W. Kirby, 1798) (Hymenoptera: Apoidea: Sphecidae), a new host species of the strepsipteran *Paraxenos sphecidarum* (Dufour, 1837) in Belarus

Podalonia affinis (W. Kirby, 1798) (Hymenoptera: Apoidea: Sphecidae) — новый хозяин веерокрылого *Paraxenos sphecidarum* (Dufour, 1837) в условиях Беларуси

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Key words: *Podalonia affinis*, *Paraxenos sphecidarum*, new host, Belarus.

Ключевые слова: *Podalonia affinis*, *Paraxenos sphecidarum*, новый хозяин, Беларусь.

Abstract. The solitary wasp *Podalonia affinis* (W. Kirby, 1798) (Hymenoptera: Apoidea: Sphecidae), collected between the dacha settlement «Glushets» and the Mikhal'ki village in September 2019, is newly recorded from Homyl Voblasts of Belarus as a host-species for the strepsipteran *Paraxenos sphecidarum* (Dufour, 1837).

Резюме. *Podalonia affinis* (W. Kirby, 1798) — одиночная оса из семейства Sphecidae (Hymenoptera: Apoidea), найденная в Гомельской области между СТ «Глушеч» и деревней Михальки (сентябрь 2019), впервые отмечена как хозяин веерокрылого *Paraxenos sphecidarum* (Dufour, 1837) для Беларуси.

Introduction

Members of the order Strepsiptera display highly peculiar morphology and lifestyles. They are small to medium sized insects (1.0–7.5 mm long) exhibiting extreme sexual dimorphism [Kinzelbach, 1971; Kathirithamby, 1989]. Free living and flying males have twisted hind wings, while their fore wings are reduced to club-like appendages. Usually endoparasitic and wingless females are known to colonize members of seven insect orders [Kathirithamby, 1989, 2009]. Approximately 600 Strepsiptera species are known to exist globally [Kathirithamby, 2002; Kinzelbach, Pohl, 2003], while 30 species from 7 families are known in Europe [Pohl, 2010; Soon et al., 2011]. There are 4 species registered in Belarus [Medvedev, 1965; Ostrovsky, 2018, 2019a, b].

Paraxenos sphecidarum (Dufour, 1837) (Strepsiptera: Xenidae) is a typical parasite of solitary wasps of the genus *Ammophila* W. Kirby, 1798 (Hymenoptera: Apoidea: Sphecidae) [Medvedev, 1965; Klaus, 2016]. Until recently, from this genus of sphecid wasps for Belarus only *A. sabulosa* (Linnaeus, 1758) has been recorded as its host [Ostrovsky, 2019a].

Results

The female of *Podalonia affinis* (W. Kirby, 1798), a solitary wasp from the family Sphecidae, stylized by a female of *P. sphecidarum* was captured in Gomel region in the course of faunal studies of Hymenoptera of the South-Eastern Belarus for the first time registered as a new host of this strepsipteron in Republic (Fig. 1).

Podalonia affinis (W. Kirby, 1798)

Fig. 1.

Material. Republic of Belarus, Gomel Area, sandy road along the mixed forest between the horticultural partnership «Glushets» and Mikhal'ki village, 8.09.2019 — 1♀ of *P. affinis* stylized by female of *P. sphecidarum*. A.M. Ostrovsky leg. et det.

Conclusion

The genus *Podalonia* Fernald, 1927 and species *Podalonia affinis* (W. Kirby, 1798) are new to Belarusia's host of strepsipteron *Paraxenos sphecidarum* (Dufour, 1837). Before that, in Belarus only *A. sabulosa* has been recorded as its host of *P. sphecidarum*.

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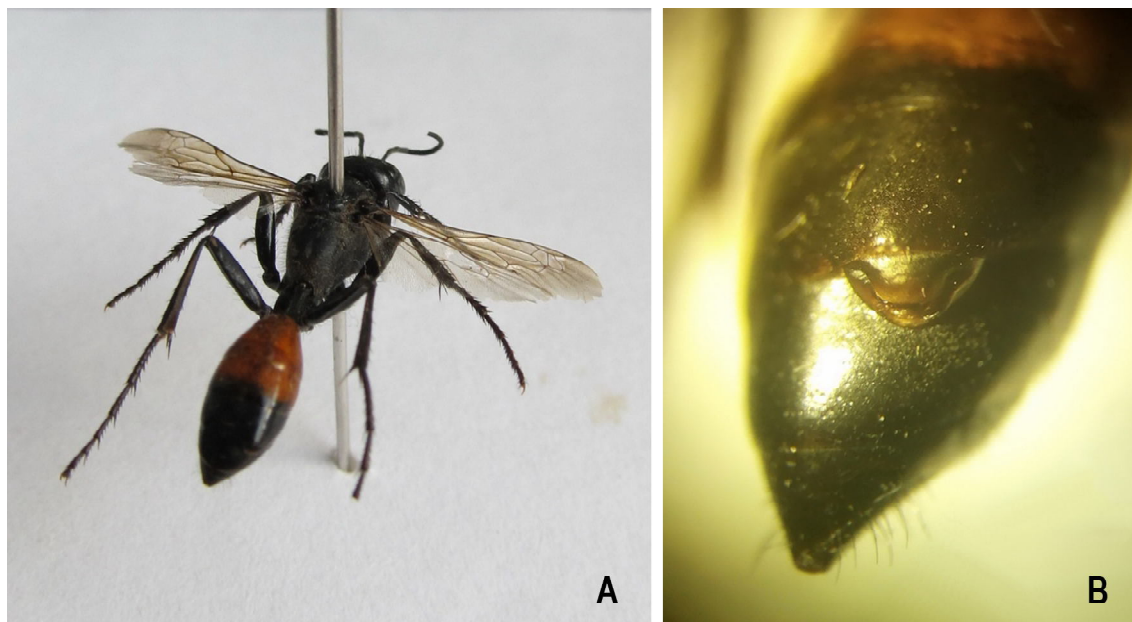


Fig. 1. A — *Podalonia affinis*: specimen (female) stylized by a female of *Paraxenos sphecidarum*; B — Posterior dorsum of female *P. affinis* showing the cephalothorax female of *P. sphecidarum* exerted at posterior border of gastral tergums IV and V.

Рис. 1. А — *Podalonia affinis*: экземпляр (самка), стилопизированный самкой *Paraxenos sphecidarum*; В — конец брюшка самки *P. affinis* с головогрудью самки *P. sphecidarum* на задней границе IV и V тергитов брюшка.

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