

## *Dacnusa bakurianensis* sp. n. (Hymenoptera, Braconidae) from Caucasus

Ekaterina Gannota & Vladimir Tobias

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*Dacnusa bakurianensis* sp. n. is described from material collected in Western Caucasus.

Ekaterina Gannota, Zoological Museum, P.O. Box 17 (P. Rautatiekatu 13), FIN-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland

Vladimir Tobias, Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Science, Universitetskaja nab. 1, 199034 St. Petersburg, Russia

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### *Dacnusa bakurianensis* sp. n.

Holotype: male, Georgia, Bakuriani, alt. 1800 m, botanical garden, 9.VI.1981, leg. V.I. Tobias. — Paratypes: two males, same data as holotype. — All types deposited in the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg.

#### *Description of male*

Head 1.3 times as wide as long; the base of triangle formed by ocelli 1.2 times longer than its lateral sides; eyes shortly oval, their transversal diameter 1.75 times as long as face width, longitudinal eye-diameter 1.5 times as long as transversal; face about 1.5 times as wide as high, slightly pitted, with sparse pubescence; temples twice as long as transversal diameter of eye; clypeus slightly protruding; mandibles (Fig. 2) three-toothed, with inner surface convex, keel-shaped, outer surface concave, all teeth well developed, tooth 2 longer and sharper than the others; palps short, maxillary palps six-segmented, labial palps four-segmented; head behind eyes smooth, occiput with sparse hairs, some of them going up to eyes; antennae 20 segmented, slightly shorter than the body, flagellomeres twice as

long as broad, hairy, with bases narrower than apexes. — Thorax 1.7 times as long as high; sides of pronotum with a few long hairs, smooth; mesoscutum with anterior face roughened and pubescent but otherwise smooth, bare and shining; notaulices reaching scutellar sulcus, impressed, smooth and narrow, with a few hairs along each notaular line; midpit elongated; mesopleura polished, strongly shining, sternaulus (precoxal suture) almost invisible, as a straight narrow smooth shallow groove; metapleuron with sparse hairs directed towards the hind coxa; propodeum covered with sparse fine hairs not concealing the weak sculpture beneath; hind femora 4 times as long as wide, hind tarsus the same length as tibia, its 5th segment as long as 3rd (Fig. 1). — Wings Fig. 1. Fore wings as long as the body (including head); pterostigma short, wedge-shaped, twice as long as metacarpus; length of first radial segment about equal to width of stigma, remainder of radius not sinuate; recurrent vein slightly antefurcal; brachial cell closed, 2.3 times as long as wide. — Abdomen. Petiole 1.3 times as long as apical width, with irregular, more or less reticulate sculpture, with a distinct central keel, covered with numerous long hairs,

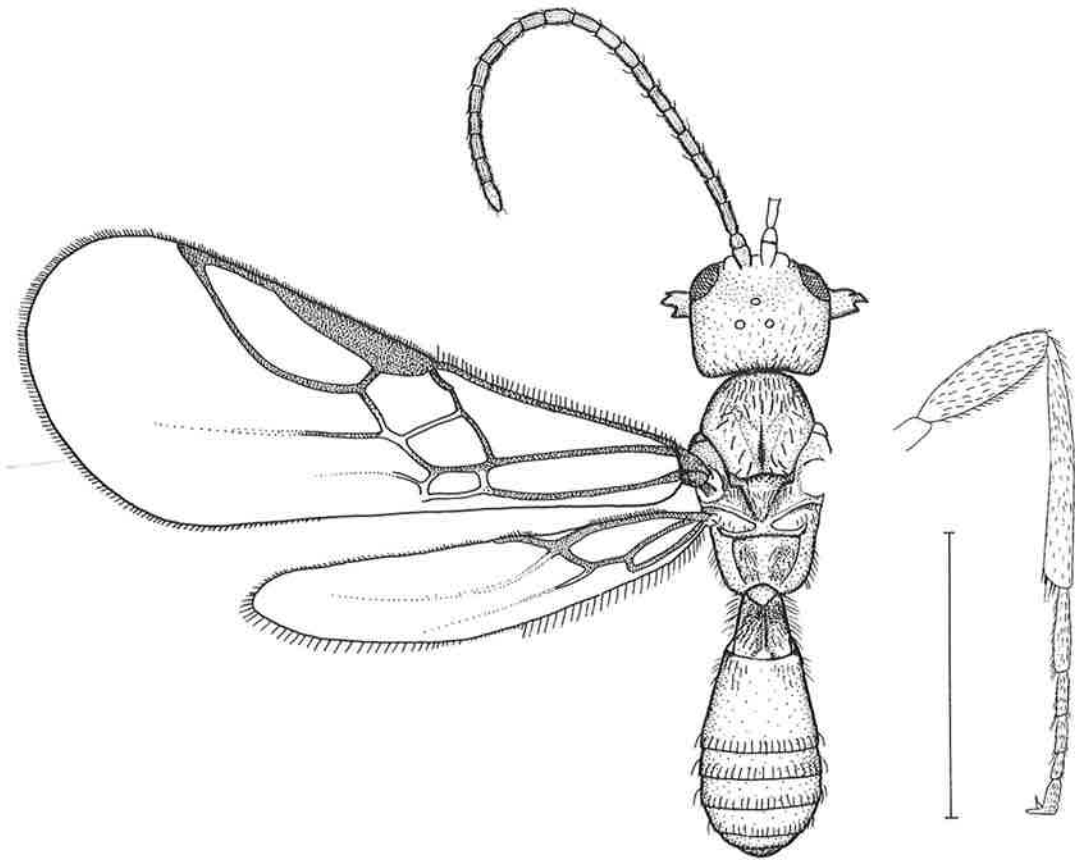


Fig. 1. *Dacnusa bakurianensis* sp. n. Habitus of male; left hind leg in lateral view. Scale bar 1 mm.

but bare along the keel; second tergite with about 8 long hairs in each basal corner and with 6 hairs along lateral margins; remaining terga with one row of hairs along hind margin. — Colour and size. Body dark brown to black with reddish tinge, including palps, mandibles, antennae and legs; pterostigma dark brown, wings hyaline; body length 2.2 mm.

Female unknown.

As we have no females in our possession and know nothing about the host of the new species, we provisionally place it in the genus *Dacnusa*, although it differs from the majority of *Dacnusa* species by the peculiar form of mandibles (Fig. 2). Most species of *Dacnusa* have simple 3-toothed

mandibles (Griffiths 1964, Tobias 1986), with all teeth about equally well developed (Wharton 1991: fig. 15). The shape of mandibles has not been used for identification of *Dacnusa* species, so it is almost impossible to find any illustrations of mandibles. According to our own observations, mandibles of *Dacnusa* are mostly quite flat or slightly curved, while mandibles of the new species are strongly convex. Most *Dacnusa* species also have a relatively broader head than *D. cubocephala*. The short palps and totally dark colouration place the new species close to *Dacnusa aterrima* Thomson, but otherwise it stands apart from all known species of *Dacnusa*.

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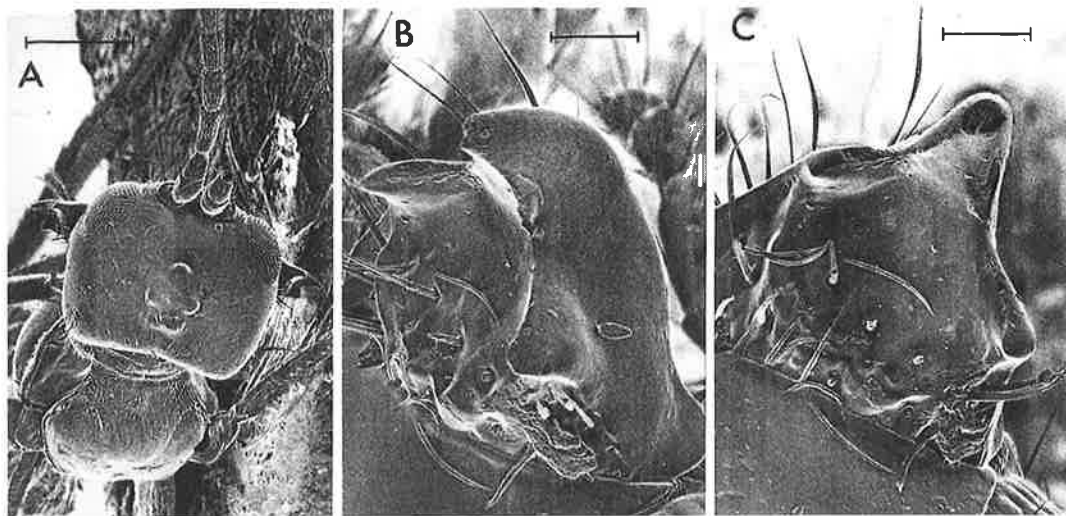


Fig. 2. Scanning electron micrographs of *Dacnusa bakurianensis* sp. n. — A. Head in dorsal view. — B. Left mandible in dorsal view. — C. Left mandible in dorso-lateral view. — Scale bar A: 0.25 mm, B and C: 0.025 mm.

## References

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