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A NEW NEARCTIC TRICLISTUS (HYMENOPTERA: ICHNEUMONIDAE)

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When Townes and Townes (1959) revised the genus *Triclistus* along with the rest of the Nearctic Metopiinae, they decided not to describe what was thought likely to be an additional new species, because only one male specimen was known. More recently, additional specimens, both males and females, were collected. From the females, which are even more distinctive than the males, it was easily seen that the species described below is indeed a new one.

TRICLISTUS MINUTUS, new species

DIAGNOSIS: This species differs markedly from other Nearctic species in a majority of the characters used in its description. Especially notable among these are its very small size (length of front wing less than 3 mm), the brown to very dark brown hind coxae and femora, the absence of a dorsal groove on the lamella between the antennal sockets, the long frons (ratio of length to width), the extremely large notch in the female subgenital plate, and the presence of a groove separating the clypeus from the face.

T. minutus does not clearly fit in either the Podagricus or Crassus Groups in the Townes classification. In the first couplet of their key for males, the ratio of tibial spur length to width and the size and proximity of facial punctures are used to differentiate the groups. The tibial spur measurements of *T. minutus* agree more with those of the Crassus Group, whereas its facial punctures are more nearly like those characterizing the Podagricus Group. Only because of their dark coxae, one might, upon superficial analysis, mistake *T. minutus* for *T. podagricus* (Gravenhorst) or *T. brunnipes* (Cresson) of the Crassus Group. *T. minutus* females, however, will key to the Crassus Group, and the only females in this group with hind legs colored anything like those of *T. minutus* are *T. brunnipes* and *T. adustus* Townes (males of the latter unknown). Both occur in western North America, while *T. minutus* has been collected only in Michigan and Virginia, although it is rather rare and consequently may have a range larger than is now known. *T. adustus* more closely resembles *T. minutus* than does *T. brunnipes*. However, *T. minutus* is easily distinguished from *T. adustus* with the description provided here, and in absence of the description could only be mistaken for *T. adustus* by someone not familiar with the latter.

DESCRIPTION: Front wing 2.4 to 2.8 mm long; face weakly mat, its punctures small and crowded, in female densely hairy and very

sharply convex in profile, moderately hairy and profile more evenly rounded in male; clypeus separated from face by a rather distinct groove; frons very long in female and quite long in male, the distances from the lower rims of the antennal sockets to the vertex being 2.0 to 2.4 (females) and 1.75 to 2.00 (males) times the distance between the eyes at the lower rims of the antennal sockets; lamella between antennal sockets not grooved above; temple moderately convex, very shiny, with punctures extremely sparse and unevenly distributed; metapleurum without hairs, coarsely mat, its ventral part longitudinally wrinkled; median longitudinal carinae of propodeum distinct, blunt, and straight; areola not constricted basally, not separated from median basal area, the two together forming a long, narrow, subrectangular area which is narrower basally; costula absent; hairs sparse in region of second lateral area of propodeum; hind spur of hind tibia (including its hairs) 5.0 to 7.0 times as long as wide; second segment of hind tarsus 2.0 to 2.3 times as long as wide; first tergite 1.5 to 1.7 times as long as wide, its dorsal carinae extending 0.74 to 0.85 its length; last segment of hind tarsus without a subapical ventral tooth or tuft of hairs on inner side; apical notch of female subgenital plate extremely large, 0.7 to 1.4 times as deep as wide.

Background coloration black. Flagellum ferruginous above, somewhat paler below, its first segment sometimes paler; pedicel and scape stramineous to pale yellow; apical half of mandible ferruginous; palpi pale stramineous to pale yellow; tegula stramineous to ferruginous, yellow basally; front and middle legs fulvous, the apical half of middle femur more or less infuscate, especially behind. Hind leg with brown to very dark brown femur, the latter more or less pale basally; hind tibia yellowish basally, ferruginous medially, infuscate apically; hind tarsus mostly pale ferruginous, with basal 0.4 to 0.7 of first segment paler.

TYPE: ♀, Edwin S. George Reserve, Livingston Co., Michigan, August 18, 1961, D. F. Owen (Townes Collection).

PARATYPES: ♀, Livingston Co., Michigan, June 12, 1959, U. N. Lanham (F. C. Evans personal collection). ♀, Livingston Co., Michigan, July 24, 1959, U. N. Lanham (Evans Collection). ♀, Livingston Co., Michigan, Aug. 21, 1961, collector unknown (Townes Collection). ♂, Dyke (Greene Co.), Virginia, May 28, 1915, W. L. McAtee (U. S. National Museum). ♂, Livingston Co., Michigan, July 20, 1961, D. F. Owen (Townes Collection). ♂, Livingston Co., Michigan, July 21, 1961, D. F. Owen (Townes Collection). ♀, Livingston Co., Michigan, Aug. 28, 1957, M. Engelmann (Townes Collection).

HABITAT and COLLECTION: In Michigan *T. minutus* was taken with sweep nets throughout the summer on The University of Michigan's Edwin S. George Reserve. They were collected on an abandoned farm site, an upland field with gravelly soil and a grass-herb plant cover. It is surrounded by oak-hickory woodlands which are encroaching on the field at its edges.

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LITERATURE CITED

- Townes, H. and M. Townes. 1959. Ichneumon-flies of America north of Mexico: 1. Subfamily Metopiinae. U.S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 216, 318 pp.