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A new species of the genus *Echthroplexiella* Mercet, 1921 (Hymenoptera: Encyrtidae) from the Moscow Province

Новый вид рода *Echthroplexiella* Mercet, 1921 (Hymenoptera: Encyrtidae) из Московской области

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КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА: Hymenoptera, Encyrtidae, *Echthroplexiella rimshai* **sp.n.**, Россия, Московская область.

ABSTRACT. The encyrtid *Echthroplexiella rimshai* **sp.n.** is described from the Moscow Province. It is compared with *E. niveicornis* Hoffer, 1963 from Slovakia.

РЕЗЮМЕ. Из Московской области описан энциртид *Echthroplexiella rimshai* **sp.n.** , сравниваемый с *E. niveicornis* Hoffer, 1963 из Словакии.

The encyrtid genus *Echthroplexiella* Mercet, 1921 (type species: *E. submetallica* Mercet, 1921) belongs to the subfamily Encyrtinae, tribe Echthroplexiellini. Earlier I have published its diagnosis with a key to 28 world species and their synopsis [Trjapitzin, 2006]. Since then, only redescription of the lectotype of *E. irinae* Nikolskaya, 1952 from the Orenburg Province of Russia was added to the knowledge of this genus [Trjapitzin, 2007]. Biology of *Echthroplexiella* is insufficiently studied; specifically, only several species were reared from coccoids of the family Eriococcidae (Homoptera). *E. popovi* Trjapitzin et Rosanov, 1972 was shown to be a secondary endoparasitoid of *Acanthococcus salsolae* Borchsenius in prepupae of its primary endoparasitoid *Anagyrus hammadae* Trjapitzin et Rosanov, 1972 in Uzbekistan.

An abbreviation used in the text: F — an antennal funicular segment.

Echthroplexiella rimshai Trjapitzin **sp.n.**

Fig. 1.

TYPE MATERIAL. Holotype ♀: Russia, Moscow Province, Pushkino district, Mamontovka [now a part of the town of Pushkino], Sosnovka, MT [Malaise trap], 16–26.V.2001 (E.Ya. Shuvakhina). In the collection of the Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, in St. Petersburg.

DESCRIPTION. Female (holotype). Body compact, slightly flattened. Occipital margin sharp, posterior margins of eyes nearly touching it. Minimum width of vertex about 0.25× maximum head width; frontovertex 2× as long as wide. Ocelli form a slightly acute triangle with apical angle somewhat less than 60°; posterior ocelli almost touching eye margins; distance from posterior ocelli to occipital margin slightly more than distance between them. Antennal scape (Fig. 1) broadened and flattened, 3× as long as wide; pedicel 3× shorter that scape; funicle somewhat broadening towards apex; F1–F3 distinctly transverse, F4–F6 only slightly transverse; clava 3-segmented, as long as three preceding funicular segments combined, strongly obliquely truncate on the dorsal side, this truncation about as long as 0.7 of clava; sutures dividing segments of clava oblique. Pronotum very short, transverse, its posterior margin strongly concave. Mesoscutum without parapsidal lines, slightly convex, wider than long (29:18). Scutellum a little shorter than mesoscutum. Wings not abbreviated: forewing 2.3× as long as wide; marginal vein punctiform; postmarginal vein shorter that stigmal. Mesotibial spur shorter that 1st tarsal segment (3:4), which is very long, 2.4× longer than 2nd. Propodeum short. Gaster shorter than mesosoma. Ovipositor sheaths not exerted.

Fig. 1. *Echthroplexiella rimshai* **sp.n.**, female antenna.
Рис. 1. *Echthroplexiella rimshai* **sp.n.**, усик самки.

Body black, with microcellular sculpture and slight metallic luster, greenish blue on scutellum. Antennal scape and pedicel black; F1–F4 brown (F4 somewhat lighter), F5–F6 and clava brownish white/yellow, truncation of clava dark. Bases of tegulae white. Forewing strongly infuscate in the middle, this infuscation reaches posterior margin of the wing: basal 1/4 and apical 1/3 of wing hyaline; radix of the wing darkened. Legs dark, including mesotibial spur; 1st segment of mid tarsi brown.

Body length 1.1 mm.

Male unknown.

HOST(s) unknown.

ETYMOLOGY. The new species is named after agronomist Vladimir Phomich Rimsha, my classmate at the K.A. Timiryazev Agricultural Academy in Moscow in 1947–1952.

DIAGNOSIS. *E. rimshai* **sp.n.** is similar and therefore probably related to *E. niveicornis* Hoffer, 1963 from Slovakia ([Hoffer, 1953] — originally erroneously described as the male of *E. aeneiventris* Mercet, 1921 [Hoffer, 1963]). Similar female characters include transverse funicular segments of antennae and absence of parapsidal lines on mesoscutum. Differences between these species are shown in the following key:

1(2). Ocelli form an obtuse triangle. Antennal funicle and clava pure white. Pronotum as long as mesoscutum, the latter is yellowish white and finely longitudinally rugose; scutellum 3× as long as mesoscutum. Wings strongly abbreviated: rudiments of forewings narrow, scarcely reaching apex of scutellum. Legs very bright yellow. 0.6 mm ..... *E. niveicornis* Hoff.

2(1). Ocelli form an acute triangle with apical angle somewhat less than 60°. F1–F4 brown (F4 lighter), F5–F6 and clava white yellow, truncation of clava dark. Pronotum very short; mesoscutum black with slight metallic luster and minute cellular sculpture; scutellum a little shorter than mesoscutum. Wings not abbreviated. Legs dark. 1.1 mm ..... *E. rimshai* **sp.n.**

Nevertheless, both macropterous individuals of *E. niveicornis* and brachypterous ones of *E. rimshai* probably exist. Proportions of thoracic sclerites in insects are usually strongly influenced by the degree of brachyptery/aptery.

COMMENTS. *E. rimshai* was collected more than a decade ago in a pine forest (*Pinus sylvestris*) with cowberry (Vaccinium vitis-idaea), in a small valley of the rivulet (now only a brook) Vetelka. However, wild vegetation is still preserved there. Just a few places of that kind are left in the town of Pushkino. The valley was described in the book by Kitaygorodskiy [1997]. I collect encyrtids in the Pushkino District since 1958 and discovered five(!) species new for the science only in the valley of Vetelka. In would be desirable to establish a natural reserve there.

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