

PYCNOMESITIUS NEW GENUS FROM BETHYLIDAE (HYMENOPTERA)

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Among the large material of the British Museum Natural History originating from South Africa were some specimens which proved to be a new genera and species of subfamily Mesitinae (Bethylidae). The specimens similar to genus *Sulcomesitius* MÓCZÁR but different especially by the extremely densely punctured abdominal tergite 2, the very fine longitudinal deepening on the mesonotum and by the shorter lateral spines of the propodeum.

Pycnomesitius gen. n.

Head, pronotum densely and coarsely punctured. Clypeus normal, longitudinal keel not delated medially. Eyes, ocelli normal developed. Mesonotum, scutellum sparsely punctured and shagreened only weakly shining. Posterior part of mesonotum with a small and fine deepening (♀ ♂) at least with an incomplete row of deep punctures. Scutellum convex without an incomplete row of deep punctures. Scutellum convex without an impression basally. Lateral spine of propodeum (♀ ♂) rather short, at most half as long as propodeum medially (♀) or shorter (♂). Wings fully developed or shortened sometimes (♀). Antennal joints 2—3 (♂) with quite different length, joint 3 nearly twice longer than 2 and with nearly parallel sides and with short dense hairs (♂) flagellar joints not thickened medially (♀). Almost the whole surface of abdominal tergite 2 deeply and extremely densely punctured, spaces between punctures at the densest part narrower than punctures. Body usually with pubescence and with hairs.

Type-species: *Pycnomesitius densepunctatus* MÓCZÁR ♀ ♂

Pycnomesitius densepunctatus sp. n.

♀. — Length 4.2 mm. Black, lower face, antennae brownish, head behind eyes and occiput, pronotum, mesonotum and propodeum partly legs yellowish red, abdominal segments partly dark reddish translucent, segments 5—6 yellowish-brown. Wings fully developed, fore wings rather dark infuscated with hyaline band without cells, veins brown. Head, thorax sparsely, abdomen more densely covered with light hairs.

Head slightly longer than broad (38 : 35), rounded like a half circle behind eyes viewed from above, without seeing the occipital carina; lateral sides, before eyes remarkably convergent toward mandibles when viewed from above vertex: lateral sides distinctly convergent, posterior angles rounded and occipital margin nearly straight; POL : OOL = 6 : 8, outer margins of ocelli with only small and narrow grooves; frontal sulcus shallow, head very densely and rather deeply punctured, spaces between punctures shagreened and smaller than punctures; eyes rather convex, separated from mandibles by two-thirds distance of its length (10 : 15); temple broad only slightly broader than malar spaces (8 : 10); mandibles with 3 teeth; anterior margin of clypeus protruding semicircularly, lateral sides nearly parallel, surface raised steeply in longitudinal, sharp and high keel medially; antennae stumpy, scape, and only joints 2—3 longer than broad, the others quadrate, length (and breadth) proportions of antennal joints 1—13 = 16/5 : 6/3.5 : 6/4 : 4/4 : 3.5/4 : 3.5/5 : 3.5/5 : 3.5/5 : 3.5/5 : 3/4 : 3/4 : 3/4 : 6/4. Pronotum slightly more than two-thirds longer broad (18 : 25), lateral sides concave, anterior angles rather sharp, posterior margin nearly straight, surface coarsely rugose, distinctly shagreened, matt, longitudinal furrow distinct, rather broad. Mesonotum distinctly shagreened, matt, with only some punctures, notauli and parapsidal furrow distinct, only a shallow and very short deepening in the middle. Mesonotum well separated from scutellum by a transverse groove and by pair of pits at its base laterally. Scutellum only shagreened basally, other parts with deep and large punctures. Propodeum short, half diameter of propodeal disc distinctly broader than long (17 : 14, on paratype 16 : 14), lateral spines stumpy, distinctly shorter than half length of propodeum (6 : 14, on paratype 5 : 14), carinae and areas of propodeum distinct (on paratype the sculpture finer), discal carina strongly bent and nearly parallel on its last quarter distally, sublateral area finely transversely wrinkled-striated. Abdominal tergite 1 smooth, polished and very shining, 2 shagreened basally, then smooth shining and with slightly scattered punctures on a small band, hence punctures becoming gradually deeper and extremely dense especially towards lateral-distal corners, a narrow band before posterior margin smooth, without punctures. Spaces between punctures only medially smooth and shining, towards lateral part shagreened and only hardly shining, segment 3 also very densely punctured and shagreened, 4—6 less distinctly punctured and only weakly shining; sternite 2 in the middle with scattered, towards laterally with gradually more dense and very deep punctures.

♂. — Length 3.8—4 mm. Very similar to female, only differing from it in characters as follows: head, ventral side of thorax, propodeum entirely black, only tip of mandibles yellowish brown. All antennal joints distinctly longer than broad, only segment 2 narrowed distinctly on its base, joints 3—13 with nearly parallel sides, at least twice as long as broad and densely covered with short and proclinate light hairs, hairs always shorter than half width of joints. Punctures of head larger than on female. Pronotum distinctly broader than long (23 : 17), deeply punctured but not coarsely rugose. Lateral spines of propodeum shorter than on female, more stumpy, hardly protruding. Abdominal tergite 2 with the same sculpture, only the smooth and scattered punctured band slightly broader.

Specimens examined: „E. Cape Prov. Katberg. 4000 ft. Oct. 1932”, „S. Africa. R. E. Turner, Brit. Mus. 1932—521” 1 ♀ holotype (London). — „C.

Cape Prov. Katberg. 4000 ft. 1—15. i. 1935", „S. Africa, R. E. Turner Brit. Mus. 1933—79.", „In B. M. 1969, under *M. fortidens* Kieffer" 1 ♀ paratype Hym. Type No. 259 (Budapest). — Port St. John, Pondoland, Oct. 1923", „S. Africa. R. E. Turner. Brit. Mus. 1923—547, 1 ♂ allotype (London).

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