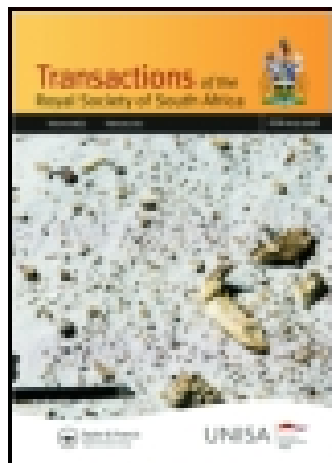


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ON THE HYMENOPTEROUS PARASITES OF THE
MEALIE STALK BORER (*SESAMIA FUSCA*, HAMPSON).

By P. CAMERON.

(Read June 27, 1906.)

BRACONIDÆ.

BRACON SESAMIÆ, sp. nov.

Black, the oral region, malar space largely, the inner eye orbits narrowly, the outer on the top more broadly, mandibles, palpi, a large triangular mark on the upper half of the prothorax, tegulæ, an elongated mark bordering the apex of the middle lobe of the mesonotum, the greater part of the scutellum, the abdomen and the legs, except the hinder coxæ, rufo-luteous; the apex of the hinder tibiæ and the hind tarsi, black; wings hyaline, the stigma and nervures black. ♀.

Length 4 mm.; terebra 1 mm.

Cape Colony. Grahamstown (14th December).

Antennæ 29-jointed, stout, almost bare; the third joint longer than the fourth. Head and thorax smooth, thickly covered with short, white pubescence. Clypeus clearly separated; the middle separated from the sides by depressions. Parapsidal furrows distinct, the middle lobe distinctly separated. Abdomen short, not quite so long as the thorax; closely, minutely punctured; the suturiform articulation is distinct, roundly curved towards the base of the segment at the sides; there is a narrow, but distinct furrow on the apex of the second segment; the segments laterally at the apex are clearly separated. There is a deep, distinct, oblique furrow down the middle of the metapleuræ.

Probably the amount of rufous colour on the head and thorax varies; the metapleuræ may be rufous.

The cocoon is elongate-ovate, white, covered on the outside with longish hair. The insect escapes by a round hole near one end.

APANTELES SESAMIÆ, sp. nov.

Black, very smooth and shining except the metanotum and basal segment of the abdomen, which are opaque and coarsely shagreened. Basal half of flagellum fuscous; the legs rufo-testaceous. Wings hyaline, the stigma and nervures fuscous. ♀.

Length nearly 2 mm.

Cape Colony. Grahamstown (11th September).

Antennæ stouter than usual, not much longer than the head and thorax united; the third joint twice longer than thick, clearly longer than the fourth which is longer than thick; the others are as long as thick. Face rounded; separated from the clypeus by a distinct furrow. Temples broad, rounded. Mesonotum depressed, flat, its apex raised. Metanotum not areolated or keeled. First abdominal segment wider than long; its sides depressed; the depressions wide, clearly defined; the second is shorter, broader than long, aciculated, more shining than the first, but not so much as the following segments; the ovipositor distinctly projects, is stout, broad; the apical ventral segment is testaceous. The apices of all the segments are transverse. The legs appear to be stouter than usual; the spurs of the hind tibiæ are stout and are nearly as long as the second tarsal joint; the hind coxæ smooth and shining. The first cubital cellule is large, its apex broadly, roundly curved; there is a short stump of the cubitus beyond it.

The antennæ are thicker, the mesonotum more shining and depressed and the nervure bounding the first cubital cellule more rounded than they are in most European species. Against the light the cubitus can be traced to the apex of the wing; at the base it is straight, oblique. The prædiscoidal areolet is more than twice longer than it is wide at the apex, where it is straight, oblique.

ICHNEUMONIDÆ.

EXEPHANES NIGROMACULATUS, Cam.

Annals of the South African Museum, Vol. V., 1906, p. 161.

The example bred is a ♂, which has not been described. The basal third of the antennæ is red, the rest black except for a white band of five joints near the middle; the apical joints are serrate.

The sides of the face and the top of the clypeus above are yellow; the malar space is black. The tubercles and the scutellum broadly in the middle are yellow. The black band down the middle of the metanotum extends beyond the areola on to the lateral areæ. The abdominal petiole is more slender than in the ♀.

Komgha, 15th February.

The three species described above were sent me by Mr. C. P. Lounsbury, the Cape Government Entomologist.