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Studies on the Scelionidae (Hym. Proctotrupeidea)

I. *Telenomus viggianii* sp. n., oophagous parasitoid
of *Rhinocoris costae* Picco (Het. Reduviidae)



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During June 1974 the author collected on leaves of *Corylus avellana* egg clusters of *Rhinocoris costae* Picco from which emerged two females of a *Telenomus* sp. The parasitoid has been reared on eggs of the Reduid *Rhinocoris erythropus* L. The author of the present note considered this material belonging to an undescribed species and his opinion was confirmed by Dr. M. A. Kozlov, Zoological Institute of Leningrad.

Telenomus viggianii sp. n.

Female. — Body black. Antennae brown with proximal surface of scape yellowish brown. Coxae black; femora, tibiae and basitarsi honey yellowish; last tarsal joints brownish yellow.

Head transverse as wide as thorax; from above about 2.5 times broader than its own length (19 : 7.5); in frontal aspect slightly wider than high (19 : 14). Vertex just behind the posterior ocelli without a margin, finely rounded. Occipital carina complete turning inwards in the middle forming a subacute angle. Lateral ocelli almost touching eye margins.

Frons with large, developed (almost touching anterior ocellus) finely, transversely striated impression with weak longitudinal carina in the middle. Along sides of frons impression (that are not convex) and above it, vertex, occiput, temples and upper part of cheeks finely punctured with long hairs. Eyes well developed (18 : 8.5) covered with dense hairs that are clearly visible at a magnification of 10 × 25. Temples and cheeks not convex, the latter a half time shorter than major diameter of eyes, in the lower part smooth; subocular line strongly incised. Scape (Fig. I, 1) weakly curved and excavated towards tip. Pedicel pear-shaped. 1st flagellar joint subpyriform gradually thickened towards tip; 2nd-4th subcylindrical. Club 5-jointed. 1st club joint somewhat transverse; 2nd-4th subquadrate; last joint gradually thinned towards tip.

Length to width ratio of antennal segments: 1st = 9.5 : 1.6; 2nd = 3 : 1.4; 3rd = 3.1 : 1.5; 4th = 2.4 : 1.5; 5th = 1.8 : 1.5; 6th = 1.6 : 1.6; 7th = 1.8 : 1.9; 8th = 2.1 : 2.5; 9th = 2.1 : 2.6; 10th = 2.3 : 2.5; 11th = 2.3 : 1.5-1.9.

Thorax longer than wide (21 : 19) almost as long as abdomen. Pronotum hardly visible from above medially. Mesoscutum almost convex. Scutellum transverse. Sides of pronotum, mesopleurae, mesoscutum finely punctured; sculpture of scutellum weaker than that of mesoscutum, both covered with long backward-directed hairs. Mesopleura and metapleura strongly excavated in the middle; hind half of the former smooth and shining as the surface of the latter which is finely and transversely striated. Metanotum visible from

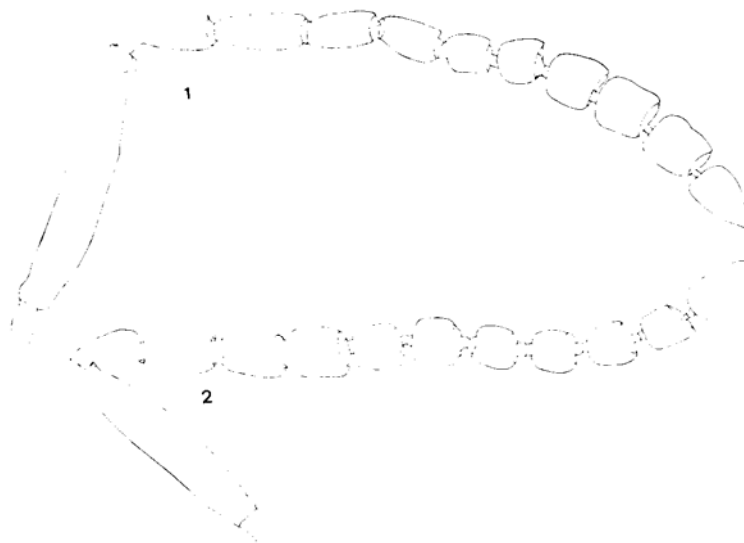


FIG. I. - *Telenomus viggianii* sp. n. - Female (1) and male (2) antennae.

above in the middle. Propodeum incised in the middle. Wings as in figure (Fig. II) clothed with short and brownish hairs. Length ratio of marginal, postmarginal and stigmal veins of forewing, respectively: 2.8 : 7.25 : 1.6.

Submarginal vein with 14-15 long erected bristles and with a row of 15-16 minute hairs along the costal cell; marginal fringe very short; hind wing with long marginal ciliae only on the posterior and distal margin (the longest not more of 1/4 of its width). Length of 1st tergite of abdomen about 1/3 of its greatest width, striated; 2nd tergite about as long as wide (17.5 : 19.5) longitudinally striated on its basal region for about 3/5; this latter finely reticulated excluding hind frontier smooth and shining. 3rd-6th tergites transverse, their combined length about 0.5 as the 2nd one and with the same sculpture of 2nd tergite, except, for all, the hind border. Length: 0.9 mm.

Male. — (Fig. II) — Similar to the female. Antennae 12-jointed (Fig. I, 2).
Scape yellowish brown as the hind quarter of femora. Mandibles darkish red, bidentate.

Length to width ratio of the legs: femora: 10 : 3; 12 : 3.2; 14.5 : 4.5 — tibiae: 28 : 9; 13.5 : 2; 17 : 2 — basitarsi: 11.5 : 0.9; 4.8 : 0.7; 7.6 : 0.8; 2nd tarsal joint:

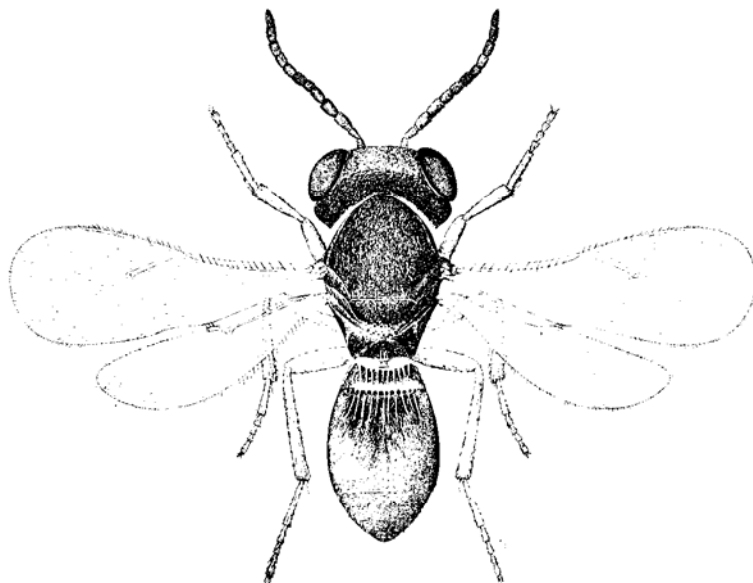


FIG. II. - *Telenomus viggianii* sp. n. - Male - (del. G. Viggiani).

1.7 : 0.6; 2.1 : 0.6; 2.5 : 0.6 — 3rd: 1.1 : 0.5; 1.2 : 0.5; 1.8 : 0.5 — 4th: 0.9 : 0.5; 1.0 : 0.5; 1.1 : 0.5; last joint: 2 : 0.7; 2 : 0.7; 1.7 : 0.7.

MATERIAL EXAMINED

1/♀ (*holotype*) from eggs of *Rhinocoris costae* Picco laid on leaf surface of *Corylus avellana*. Locality: Polizzi Generosa (Palermo) - 15/VII/1974; male (*allotype*), 7/♂♂ and 1/♀ (paratypes) from eggs of *Rhinocoris erythropus* L.

Holotype (holotype number: 3), allotype and 3 paratypes (1/♀; 2/♂♂) preserved in the collection of Institute of Agricultural Entomology of Palermo. Other paratypes will be preserved in the following collections: Institute of Agricultural Entomology of Naples (Portici) (2/♂♂); Zoological Institute of Leningrad (1/♂); Hungarian Nat. Mus. nat. Hist. Budapest (2/♂♂).

REMARKS

In the opinion of Dr. M. A. Kozlov *Telenomus viggianii* is « near *Telenomus embolicus* KOZL. » (*in litt.*).

The preimaginal development of *T. viggianii* in laboratory at 25°-26°C lasts about 18 days.

The new specie is named for my colleague Prof. Gennaro Viggiani, Institute of Agricultural Entomology, University of Naples - Portici.

RIASSUNTO

In questo lavoro l'Autore descrive per la Sicilia un nuovo Scelionide: *Telenomus viggianii* ottenuto da uova del Reduvide *Rhinocoris costae* Picco.

SUMMARY

In this work the Author describes a new Scelionid collected in Sicily: *Telenomus viggianii* reared from eggs of the Reduviid *Rhinocoris costae* Picco.

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