SYNONYMY AND OTHER NOTES ON BRACONIDAE

(Hymenoptera)

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(**Bracon albolineatus** CAMERON) = **Bracon chinensis** SZÉPLIGETI

Bracon chinensis SZÉPLIGETI, Term. Füz. 25: 30, 1902.

Bracon albolineatus CAMERON, Ins. Ent. Zeit. 3: 277, 1910. **Syn. nov.**

= *Amyosoma chilonis* VIERECK, 1913; = *Agathis noiratum* ISHIDA, 1915; and = *Microbracon chilocida* RAMAKRISHNA AYYAR, 1928.

After careful examination through the literature I have come to the conclusion that *Bracon albolineatus* CAMERON taken at Malacca, Malaya, should be sunken as a synonym of *Bracon chinensis* SZÉPLIGETI: because no special difference can be detected between them, not only in structure but also in host-relationship and in distribution. Moreover, CAMERON used *albolineatus* twice in the same genus and in the same year. Through the courtesy of Dr. G. E. J. NIXON, of the British Museum of Natural History, I have been able to know the dates of the first publications of these species and to confirm the priority: *Bracon albolineatus* CAMERON (Ins. Ent. Zeit. 3: 277, 1910) taken at Malacca was published in March, 1910, while *Bracon albolineatus* CAMERON (Soc. Ent. 25: 15, 1910) taken in Borneo was published in May, 1910. The second is thus to be rejected as a primary homonym and will require a new name even though the first should be sunken as a synonym of *Bracon chinensis*.

Hosts: This species is parasitic on stem-borers of rice, maize, sugar-cane, etc. According to WATANABE (Jour. Facul. Agr., Hokkaido Imp. Univ. 42: 28, 1937, and Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc. Formosa, 33: 460, 1943) the hosts of *Bracon chinensis* are listed as follows: *Chilo simplex* BUTLER, *Chilo infuscatellus* SNELLEN, *Schoenobius incertellus* WALKER, *Sesamia inferens* WALKER and *Diatraea shariinensis* EGUCHI. The following moth-borers are given by VINSON (Bull. Ent. Res. 33: 39—65, 1942) as hosts of *Bracon albolineatus*: *Diatraea venosata* WALKER, *Chilo zonellus* SWINHOE and *Sesamia inferens* WALKER. Besides, this parasite has been introduced from South China to the Hawaiian Islands for the biological control of the Rice Stem Borer, *Chilo simplex*, (see: SWEZY, Jour. Econ. Ent. 24: 945—947, 1931), and it has been introduced from Ceylon to Mauritus for the control of the Spotted Borer, *Diatraea mauriciella* WALKER (see: VINSON, loc. cit., 1942).

Distribution: This species is widely distributed in Orient, i. e. South China, Formosa, Japan, Korea, South India, Ceylon, Malaya, Siam, Java, and the Philippines.

(Habrobracon pectinophorae WATANABE) = Habrobracon hebetor (SAY)

Bracon hebetor SAY, Boston Jour. Nat. Hist. 1: 252, 1836.

Habrobracon pectinophorae WATANABE, Ins. Mats. 10: 44, 1935.

Through the courtesy of Dr. C. F. W. MUESEBECK, I have had the opportunity to compare the types of *Habrobracon pectinophorae* with the authentic representatives determined by MUESEBECK as *Microbracon hebetor*. In conclusion, I have had no hesitation to agree with WHITING (Ent. News 60: 113—115, 1949) and MUESEBECK (U. S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Monograph No. 2: 165. 1951) on the synonymy.

Philomacroploea pleuralis (ASHMEAD)

Chelonogastra pleuralis ASHMEAD, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. 30: 196, 1906.

Philomacroploea pleuralis WATANABE, Ins. Mats. 17: 98, 1951.

In the present specimens (5♂♂ & 6♀♀) the antennae are 20—23 jointed in the males and 23—25 jointed in the females. The fuscous markings of the body are almost indistinct in the females and very faint in the males.

Hosts: This species has been recorded by WATANABE (1951) as a parasite of the Lima-bean Pod Borer, *Etiella zinckenella* TREITSCHKE. The present specimens were reared by SHIBUYA from the Soy Bean Pod Gall Midge, *Asphondylia* sp., at Kagoshima in August 31st, 1951: according to SHIBUYA and MAEHARA (Oyô-Kontyû 7: 189, 1952) this parasite is one of the most important enemies of the midge, and in the summer of 1951 the percentage of parasitism reached to 70% at Kagoshima.

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