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NO. 4. NEW INDIAN GALL MIDGES
(ITONIDIDÆ)

BY

E. P. FELT

State Entomologist of New York, U. S. A

NO. 5. THREE NEW WASPS FROM INDIA

BY

G. R. DUTT, B.A.

Personal Assistant to the Imperial Entomologist



AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, PUSA

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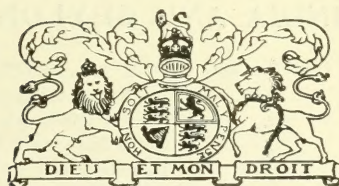
MEMOIRS OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
IN INDIA

NEW INDIAN GALL MIDGES (*ITONIDIDÆ*)

BY

E. P. FELT

State Entomologist of New York, U. S. A



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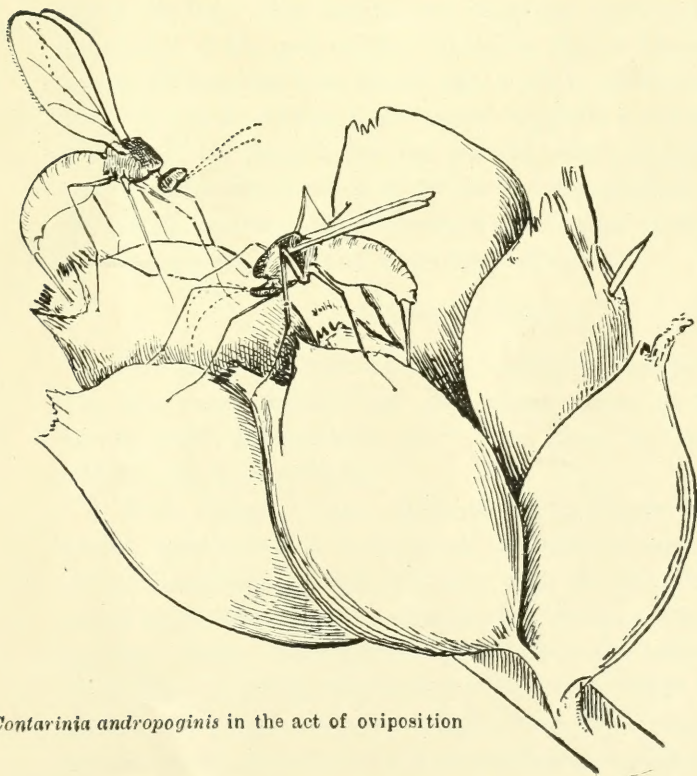
INTRODUCTORY NOTE

THE following are a few notes on the eggs and the habits of *Contarinia andropoginis*, Felt, made in July 1914. I have added them to Dr. Felt's paper together with two drawings showing Cecidomyiads in the act of oviposition and the position of a pupa in a floret, as they appeared to be not without interest. The drawings were made by me from life while oviposition was actually in progress.

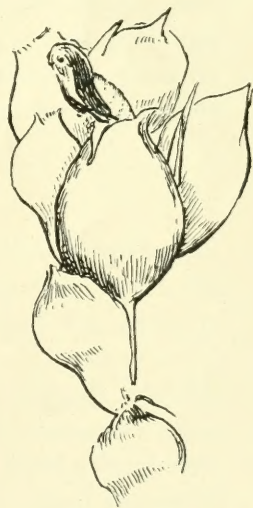
Contarinia andropoginis, Felt.

Egg. The egg is about 0.45 mm. in length, and sausage-shaped and transparent except for orange pigmentation about the middle.

Oviposition. The fly runs about from floret to floret on the ear-head, continually trying with her extended ovipositor to see whether she is in



Contarinia andropoginis in the act of oviposition



Pupa of *Contarinia andropoginis*.

position for egg-laying. The ovipositor is very flexible and is thrust about here and there by the fly with great ease. When the ovipositor has been successfully pushed under a glume, generally from the top, a peristaltic movement takes place and the egg is laid. So far only one egg has been found in each floret. Egg-laying from the time of the first essay with the ovipositor until the egg is actually laid takes between 10—30 seconds. Oviposition takes place either on just opened florets or on those from which the pollen sacs have not yet emerged. The egg is generally laid about half way down one of the outer glumes but has been found at the bottom and inner side.

The flies seem to be continually busy, running from flower to flower and ovipositing apparently with great frequency.

COIMBATORE :

The 10th December 1920.

E. BALLARD,

Government Entomologist, Madras.

NEW INDIAN GALL MIDGES (*ITONIDIDÆ*).

BY

E. P. FELT,

State Entomologist of New York, U. S. A.

[Received for publication on 21st December, 1920.]

THIS paper is based upon a small series of reared gall midges received, under the date of 4th May 1920, from Mr. E. Ballard, Government Entomologist in Madras. The rearings are of special interest since they increase our knowledge of the gall midges attacking *cholam* (*Andropogon Sorghum*) and *cumbu* (*Pennisetum typhoideum*) and, taken in connection with earlier records, show that each of these plant genera supports a series of gall midges, some being probably primary enemies and the others secondary or even predatory and therefore beneficial, as in the case of *Mycodiplosis indica*, Felt, which, in this latest sending, was obtained for the second time from larvæ feeding on the rust spores on *Pennisetum typhoideum*.

Camptomysia ricini, n. sp.

This species was reared from dry castor-bean stems (*Ricinus communis*). The flies were labelled "on dry castor stems or bark, Coimbatore, 6th March 1920, Ramakrishna coll." The insect is typical of the genus to which it has been referred.

Male. Length 1 mm. Antennæ about $\frac{1}{2}$ longer than the body, sparsely haired, light brown, at least 18 and probably 21 segments, the nearly transparent stems with a length $\frac{1}{2}$ greater than the cylindrical basal enlargement, which latter has a length $\frac{1}{2}$ greater than its diameter. Terminal segment is missing. Palpi: first segment subquadrate, the second with a length about three times its width, the third is a little longer than the second, much more dilated, the fourth twice the length of the third, more slender. Mesonotum reddish brown, scutellum and postscutellum pale yellowish, abdomen yellowish

brown. Genitalia slightly fuscous, halteres whitish transparent, coxæ and femora basally yellowish transparent, the legs pale straw. Claws moderately long, slender, unidentate, the pulvilli shorter than the claws. Genitalia: basal clasp segment moderately long, stout; terminal clasp segment greatly swollen basally and tapering to a somewhat produced distinctly chitinized slender tooth; dorsal plate divided, the lobes rather long, broad and broadly rounded apically; ventral plate divided, the lobes a little longer, somewhat narrow and obliquely rounded apically; harpes apparently composed of submedian chitinized, recurved hooks and surrounded by a chitinous ring, which latter bears at the posterior angles produced, broad, sparsely setose lobes.

Female. Length 1.75 mm. Antennæ extending to the base of the abdomen, sparsely haired, pale yellowish, 21 segments, the fifth with a stem about $\frac{1}{4}$ the length of the subcylindric basal enlargement, which latter has a length $2\frac{1}{2}$ times its diameter; terminal segment compound, composed of two rather closely fused segments, with a total length of over three times its diameter; the distal portion subconical. Mesonotum brownish yellow. Scutellum and postscutellum yellowish; abdomen light brown; the ovipositor with a length about half that of the abdomen and recurved dorsally. Terminal lobes narrowly lanceolate and sparsely setose; other characters nearly as in the male. Type Cecid. A 3145 N. Y. State Museum.

Asphondylia pongamiae, n. sp.

These midges produce galls on *Pongamia glabra* and are parasitized by a Chalcidid. They were labelled: 9th March 1920, Coimbatore, Ramakrishna coll. This is a typical, though somewhat peculiar, *Asphondylia*.

Gall. Globose, diameter 1.2 mm. with a thin shell and apparently a pulpy interior, presumably inhabited by several larvæ.

Exuvium. Length 4 mm. Light brown, moderately stout, the dorsum of the abdominal segments of 3 to 8 with about 5 somewhat irregular transverse rows of short, stout spines, the basal ones being more irregular and shorter and the distal one almost regular and transverse.

Pupa. Length 3.5 mm. Reddish orange, the antennal horns approximate, tapering and with a length over twice the greatest diameter.

Male. Length 4 mm. Antennæ nearly as long as the body, sparsely haired, fuscous yellowish, 14 segments, the 5th with a length about 7 times its diameter and with numerous, somewhat high obliquely and sinuously, transverse fila. Terminal segment missing. Palpi: first segment short, subquadrate, the second with a length about three times its width, the third

more than twice the length of the second, slender, tapering and with scattering, rather stout setæ. Mesonotum dark reddish brown. Scutellum and post-scutellum fuscous yellowish; abdomen yellowish brown. Genitalia yellowish; wings hyaline; halteres whitish transparent; coxæ and legs a nearly uniform straw. Claws rather long, moderately stout, strongly curved, simple; the pulvilli nearly as long as the claws. Genitalia: basal clasp segment moderately long, stout; terminal clasp segment short, greatly swollen, bidentate apically; the teeth unusually short and divergent; dorsal plate divided, the lobes irregularly orbicular; ventral plate deeply and broadly emarginate, the lobes narrowly triangular and thickly clothed distally with stout setæ.

Female. Length 4 mm. Antennæ extending to the third abdominal segment, sparsely haired, light brown, 14 segments, the 5th with a length about six times its diameter, the 12th segment with a length about $2\frac{1}{4}$ times its diameter, the 13th with a length a little greater than its diameter and the 14th globose. Palpi: first segment short, subquadrate, the second narrowly oval with a length $2\frac{1}{2}$ times its width, the third more than twice the length of the second and somewhat dilated subapically. Mesonotum dark reddish brown; scutellum and postscutellum fuscous yellowish; abdomen dark brown; halteres whitish transparent; coxæ and legs light straw. Ovipositor when extended about $\frac{3}{4}$ the length of the abdomen. Type Cecid. 3147 N. Y. State Museum.

Contarinia andropoginis, n. sp.

A series of midges were reared from the ear-head of *cholam* (*Andropogon Sorghum*) and labelled: 14 VII, South India, Coimbatore. The midge approaches somewhat the American *C. sorghicola*, Coq., which lives in the seed heads of *Sorghum*, its close allies and several grasses, and from which it is easily distinguished by colorational and other characters. The species is quite distinct from the Indian *C. caudata*, Felt, reared from ear-heads of *Apluda varia* and *Andropogon schœnanthus*, and noteworthy because of the very slender body of the female and her unusually narrow wings. The male genitalia of this species are also peculiar in that the dorsal plate lobes are relatively broad, the tapering being distinctly subapical. This new species is separable from the Philippine *C. saltata*, Felt, provisionally associated with *Andropogon Sorghum*, by the distinctly different antennal structure in the male and marked differences in coloration.

Male. Length 1.4 mm. Antennæ one-half longer than the body, thickly haired, light brown, 14 segments, the 5th with stems each one-fourth longer than the diameter, both basal and distal enlargement subglobose, the circumfila

rather long and moderately numerous. Palpi: first segment subquadrate, the second twice the length of the first, moderately broad, the third one-half longer than the second, more slender, and the fourth a little longer and more slender than the third. Mesonotum dark reddish brown. Scutellum and postscutellum yellowish brown. Abdomen sparsely haired, dark yellowish brown. Halteres yellowish transparent; coxæ and femora basally pale yellowish, the distal portion of femora a little darker; tibiæ and tarsi a variable straw. Claws long, slender, slightly curved; pulvilli about half the length of the claws. Genitalia: basal clasp segment moderately long, stout; terminal clasp segment rather long, swollen basally; dorsal plate short, deeply and triangularly emarginate; the lobes tapering to an acute apex; ventral lobes rather long, broadly and roundly emarginate, the lobes rather broad, broadly rounded apically.

Female. Length 1.5 mm. Antennæ extending to the third abdominal segment, sparsely haired, dark brown, 14 subcylindrical, subsessile segments, the fifth with a length two and half times its diameter. Terminal segment with a length about two and quarter times its diameter, specially with a globose knob. Palpi: first segment subquadrate, the second a little longer, broader, the third one-half longer than the second, and the fourth a little longer than the third and more slender. Mesonotum dark purplish brown. Scutellum and postscutellum yellowish brown. Abdomen mostly dark brown, sparsely haired. Halteres pale yellowish; coxæ and femora whitish transparent; the legs mostly dark straw. The yellowish ovipositor fully as long as the abdomen; the lobes slender, tapering and with a length fully three times the width. Type Cecid. A 3142 N. Y. State Museum.

Itonida seminis, n. sp.

The midges were reared from the ear-heads of *cumbu* (*Pennisetum typhoides*). The specimens were labelled: 18-XII-16, South India, Coimbatore. The species is related to *I. penniseti*, Felt, the males of which are easily distinguished by the distinctly longer distal portion of the stem on the flagellate antennal segments, whereas in this species both parts of the stem are substantially equal.

Male. Length 1.75 mm. Antennæ as long as the body, thickly haired, light brown, 14 segments, the fifth with stems each having a length one-half greater than the diameter. Basal enlargement subglobose, the distal enlargement with a length one-fourth greater than its diameter, the circumfila moderately short. Terminal segment: basal enlargement subglobose, basal portion of the stem with a length about three times its diameter, the distal

enlargement produced, with a length about four times its diameter and tapering gradually to an irregularly rounded apex. Palpi : first segment subquadrate, with a length nearly twice its width, the second a little longer, broader, the third as long as the second, more slender, and the fourth about as long as the third, more slender. Mesonotum reddish brown ; scutellum and postscutellum yellowish brown. Abdomen rather thickly haired, pale yellowish. Halteres whitish transparent, slightly fuscous, subapically. Coxæ yellowish ; legs mostly dark straw ; the claws moderately long, curved, slender ; the pulvilli a little shorter than the claws. Genitalia : basal clasp segment short, broad ; terminal clasp segment rather long, tapering ; dorsal plate short, deeply and roundly emarginate ; ventral plate short, broad, deeply and triangularly emarginate.

Female. Length 1.75 mm. Antennæ extending to the third abdominal segment, rather thickly haired, fuscous yellowish, 14 subsessile segments, the 5th with stems one-third the length of the subcylindrical basal portion, which latter has a length two and a half times its diameter. Terminal segment reduced, with a length little over twice its diameter, apically with a globose knob. Palpi nearly as in the male. Mesonotum brownish yellow ; scutellum and postscutellum yellowish. Abdomen yellowish orange ; halteres pale yellowish. Coxæ yellowish ; legs mostly pale straw ; the pulvilli about one-half the length of the claws. Ovipositor nearly as long as the body ; the terminal lobes narrowly oval, sparsely setose. Type Cecid. A 3143 N. Y. State Museum.

Cecidomyia artocarpæ, n. sp.

A number of flies were reared from rotting jak fruit (*Artocarpus*). They were labelled : "Godavari, January 1918, Ramakrishna coll.". Owing to the lack of males and the poor condition of the specimens, it is deemed best to characterize the species under the broad generic term *Cecidomyia*, leaving the reference to closely defined genus until the discovery of the opposite sex.

Female. Length 1.5 mm. Antennæ extending to the third abdominal segment, sparsely haired, light brown, 14 segments, the 5th with the stems about $\frac{3}{4}$ the length of the cylindric basal enlargement, which latter has a length about $2\frac{1}{4}$ times its diameter ; terminal segment slightly produced, the basal enlargement with a length three times its diameter and apically a rather stout finger-like setose appendage $\frac{1}{3}$ the length of the enlargement. Mouthparts distinctly prolonged, with a length about half the vertical diameter of the head. Palpi : apparently quadriarticulate, first and second segments apparently short, subquadrate, the third with a length three times its width, some-

what compressed, the fourth $\frac{1}{4}$ longer than the third, more slender. Mesonotum reddish brown. Scutellum and postscutellum yellowish. Abdomen light yellow; wings hyaline, the third vein uniting with the margin well beyond the apex of the wing. Halteres whitish apically, reddish brown basally; legs apparently a nearly uniform light straw. Claws slender, simple; the pulvilli rudimentary. Ovipositor about $\frac{1}{3}$ the length of the abdomen when extended; the terminal lobes rather long, narrow, broadly rounded apically and minutely setose. Type Cecid. A 3146 N. Y. State Museum.

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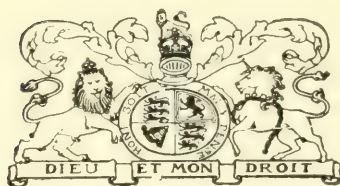
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THREE NEW WASPS FROM INDIA.

BY

G. R. DUTT, B.A.,

Personal Assistant to the Imperial Entomologist.

[Received for publication on 24th January, 1921.]

Gorytes confusus, sp. nov.

♂. Head, thorax and abdomen with a few scattered shallow punctures. Eyes very slightly convergent towards the clypeus, antennæ short, almost about the length of mesothorax to the tip of the triangular area at the base of the median segment. Clypeus covered anteriorly with short thin white glistening pubescence; head, pleuræ, sides of the median segment and abdomen pruinose; median segment rounded posteriorly, the triangular enclosed space at the base, transversely striate, a few striæ at the base going obliquely; the first abdominal segment narrowed to the base, longer than the second; posterior tarsi ciliated. Head black, thorax and abdomen reddish; clypeus, face up to the base of antennæ and antennæ from below reddish (probably discoloured on account of the action of cyanide), antennæ from above shaded with fuscous; anterior margin of prothorax, triangular area at the base of the median segment, disc of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th abdominal segments in the middle above, visible portions of the 5th and 6th segments entirely black. Legs pale reddish, a short streak outside, and another much longer inside on the posterior tibiæ, tarsal joints of the same pair, excepting the metatarsi which are pale yellow, black. Wings hyaline with a large, fuscous, subapical spot occupying the radial and the 2nd and 3rd cubital cells of the forewing.

Habitat. Chapra, Bihar (Mackenzie).

Length about 7 mm.; wing expanse about 12 mm.

Described from a single specimen which is the type.

It is easily confused with *Gorytes pictus*, Sm., to which it bears strong resemblance. An examination of the sculpture of the triangular area at the base of the median segment will, however, distinguish it from that species. It belongs to the subgenus *Hoplisoides*.

Crabro flavo-nigra, sp. nov.

(PLATE II.)

♀. Head and mesothorax finely punctured, punctures shallow, median segment roughly cribrate; abdomen impunctate, smooth and shining. Clypeus covered with thin glistening silvery pile, a little longish pale hairs behind the cheeks. Clypeus medially carinated, antennæ inserted at the base of the clypeus, each antenna at the point of its insertion almost touching the inner orbit of the eye next to it; eyes convergent below, separated at the base of the clypeus by a distance equal to about half the length of the scape, the front bears three grooves, two along the inner orbits of the eyes and the third from the anterior ocellus towards the clypeus; ocelli in a triangle, the posterior pair at about the same distance from each other as from the eyes, the space between them and the eyes also sulcated. The pronotum medially grooved above, median segment without a distinctly enclosed area but has a longitudinal sulcus, which is continued more distinctly on the apical area, at the base there are carinæ diverging obliquely. Abdomen fusiform, 2nd segment slightly constricted at its base. Black: mandibles, excepting their apical margins which are dark rufous, clypeus, scape, the basal two joints of the flagellum, the posterior margin of the pronotum, the tubercles, the scutellum and the postscutellum, nearly two-thirds of the 1st abdominal segment apically, a broad stripe on the 2nd segment above, broadly constricted and faintly interrupted in the middle, two large lateral ovate marks on the 3rd, the whole of the 4th segment with the exceptions of a narrow margin at the base, and the 5th segment completely, yellow; the last abdominal segment rufous, shaded with fuscous at the base. The trochanters, femora, tibiæ and tarsi of the 1st and 2nd pair, trochanters, tibiæ and tarsi of the 3rd pair of legs, yellow with a tinge of testaceous. Wings flavo-hyaline very slightly fuscous at the apex, nervures and tegulæ testaceous

Habitat. Pusa, Bihar (Dutt coll.).

Length 7.5 mm., expanse 13.5 mm.

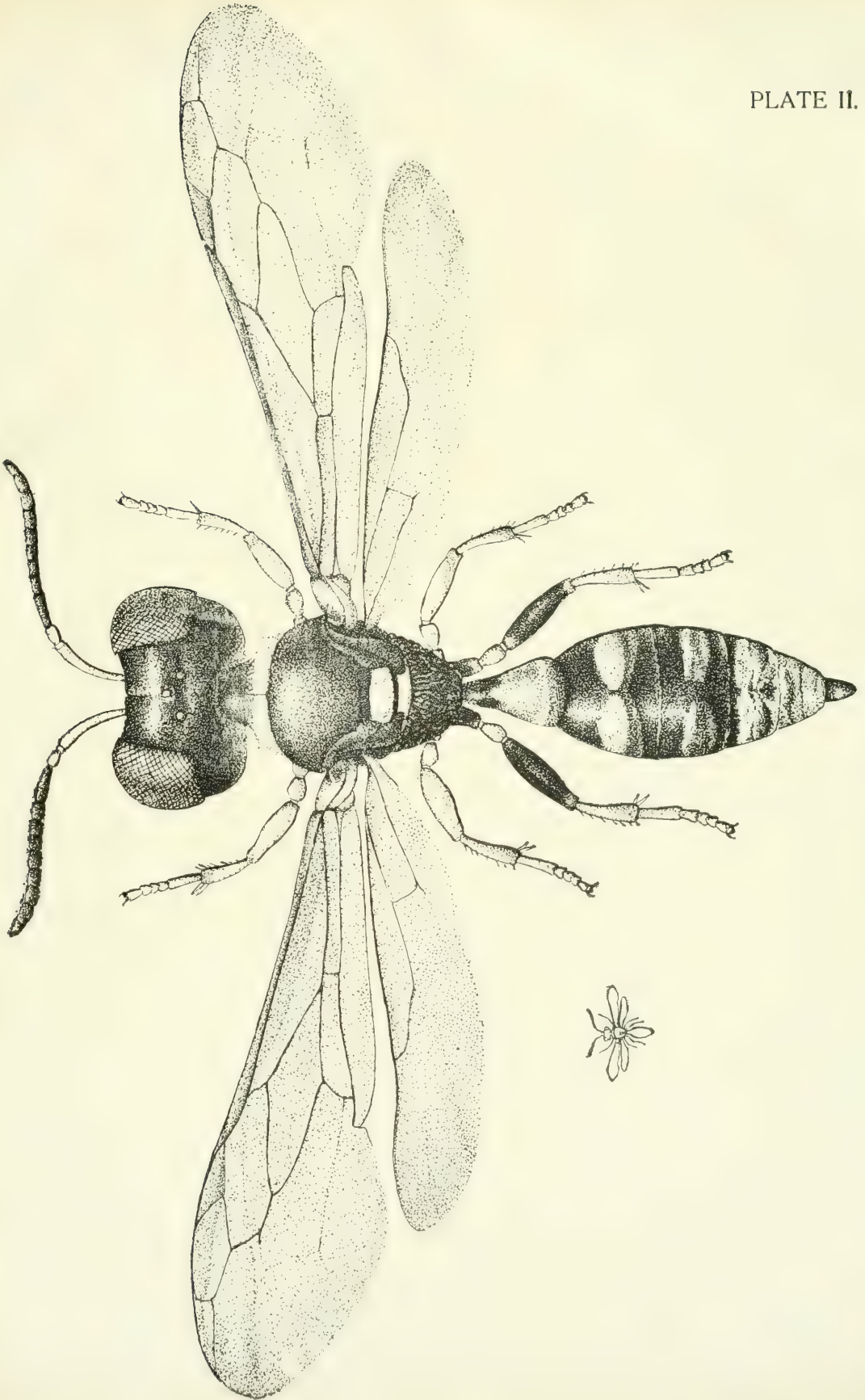
Belongs to subgenus *Anothyreus*.

Described from a single specimen which is the type.

Alastor punjabensis, sp. nov.

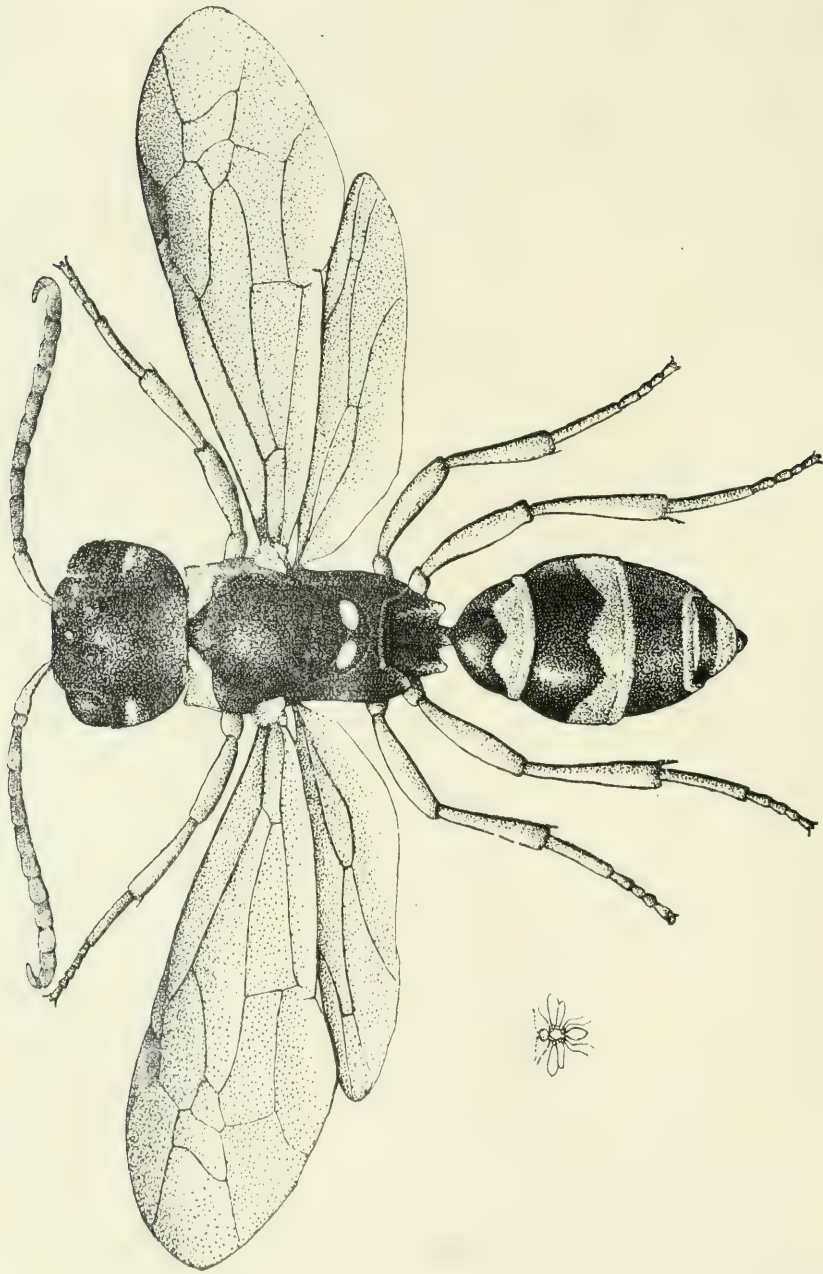
(PLATE III.)

♂. Head, thorax and basal four abdominal segments strongly punctured, punctures deep on head and thorax, shallow on abdominal segments. Clypeus slightly punctured, convex in the middle and incised at the apex, with short



CRABRO FLAVO-NIGRA (X 15).

(The outline figure below shows the natural size.)



ALASTOR PUNJABENSIS (X 15)

(The outline figure below shows the natural size.)

thin hoary pubescence which is thick close to the eyes on either side, on the labrum below which is flat, there are slightly longer pale yellow hairs. Antennæ inserted a little above the base of the clypeus. The pronotum truncate anteriorly, the anterior lateral angles prominently sharp not exactly tuberculate, tegulæ large, smooth and shining. The scutellum sparsely punctured, shining, bearing a medial longitudinal impression on the apical half, the median segment anteriorly short, roundly concavo-truncate posteriorly, lateral angles produced into blunt points and posterior angles at apex into upcurved thick spines. The basal abdominal segment cup-shaped, second segment constricted at the base, the remaining segments are generally drawn within the second segment; all the segments are more or less pruinose. Black: mandibles excepting at apex where they are dark rufous, the labrum, the clypeus, a triangular mark just above it, a line on the scape of the antennæ in front, sinus of the eyes, a spot behind each eye, sides of the pronotum not reaching the posterior angles, tegulæ excepting a black dot above (the dot absent in some cases), a medially interrupted band on the scutellum, a mark on the lateral angles of the median segment, transverse bands on the apical margin of the basal four abdominal segments, the band on the basal segment is narrow laterally, broad in the middle, that on the second more or less sinuate, coxæ in front, femora with a varying amount of blackness on the basal portion, tibiæ and tarsi of all the legs, yellow. Wings hyaline, iridescent in certain lights, the radial and the first cubital cells slightly fuscous, the nervures dark testaceous.

Habitat. Akalgarh, Punjab (Dutt coll.).

Length 5-6 mm. Exp. 11·5-12·5 mm.

Alastor is a genus under which 68 species only have so far been described from the whole world. Dalla Torre listed 41 species under this genus in his 'Catalogus Hymenopterorum,' Vol. IX, pp. 110—112, published in 1894, and during the succeeding 24 years, *i.e.*, up to the end of 1918, 27 more were added to the list. The first species from the Oriental Region *Alastor variolosus* was brought forward by Bingham as far back as 1897 from Ceylon (Bingh. *Fauna Brit. India, Hym.*, Vol. I, p. 375) and the present species is the second one which is described, after nearly 21 years, from the same region.

Note. I have followed Bingham in assigning the different genera to the species described above.

