Type specimens of the braconid species described by T. A. Marshall and deposited in the Hungarian Natural History Museum (Hymenoptera: Braconidae)

J. PAPP

Department of Zoology, Hungarian Natural History Museum
H-1088 Budapest, Baross utca 13, Hungary

Abstract - After MARSHALL’s death (in 1903) a small portion of his braconid collection was purchased by the Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest. The material consists of about 150 specimens with 32 species represented by syntype series. The method of selecting holotypes, lectotypes and paralectotypes is discussed. Of the 32 nominative species 21 remained valid and 11 names were suppressed in synonymy.

Key words - Hymenoptera, Braconidae, MARSHALL-collection, type designations.

INTRODUCTION

T. A. MARSHALL (1827–1903) was the first specialist who published monographs on the braconids of the British Isles (MARSHALL 1885, 1887) as well as on those of Europe and Algeria (1888–1900). In both monographs MARSHALL presented a thorough survey of the composition of the braconid fauna of the regions in question; further details see in the obituaries of MARSHALL (BIGNELL 1903, MCLACHLAN 1903, POULTON 1903). For many decades in the 20th century, the book on the braconids of Europe was the only source to promote the identification of these wasps.

In his two monographs MARSHALL had the occasion to describe a long series of new taxa: a lot of new species and a much less number of new genera. By this taxonomic activity a considerable quantity of type material was accumulated in MARSHALL’s private braconid collection.

After MARSHALL’s death (in 1903) the inheritors of his family had dismembered his braconid collection to put it for sale. The great majority of the braconids was purchased by The Natural History Museum in London. Smaller or bigger portions were acquired by several museums such as Norwich, Plymouth, Southampton in England and by Barcelona, Budapest and Genova in Europe. The business clients...
of the Budapest museum were, supposedly, Mr. L. BIRÓ and Mr. GY. Szépligeti at the first two decades of the 20th century, i.e. before the First World War. By this trade the Hungarian Natural History Museum entered into the possession of a fragment portion of MARSHALL’s braconid collection.

Rearranging the world collection of the braconids of the Hungarian Natural History Museum I found that this braconid material consisted of not more than about 150 specimens. The bulk of them had been identified by MARSHALL himself and later, after the trade, by SZÉPLIGETI, who either confirmed MARSHALL’s names or, in some cases, emendated them supplying with new names. In this material there were also type specimens of MARSHALL’s species which, surprisingly, were not managed according to the rules of nomenclature and handling of the types generally accepted and applied by museums.

MARSHALL’s types are easy to recognise by his special notation: his identification card is medio-longitudinally lined with red ink, above which the species name is given with MARSHALL’s handwriting, and below it the printed “Coll. MARSHALL” can be read. The specimens themselves originating from MARSHALL’s Collection are also immediately recognisable by their characteristic mounting cards of hard paste-board and by the glued wasp specimens with nicely and symmetrically set antennae, wings, legs and ovipositing apparatus.

MARSHALL’s specimens with red-lined identification card, however, do not represent types in all cases. It was MARSHALL’s habit to sign with red line every specimen belonging to a species described by him earlier on the basis of another (i.e. syntype) series. Marshall supposedly considered these specimens as types. However, this practice was not consistent with the rules of nomenclature of his time, either. Therefore a more authentical procedure was carried out by me to decide whether the specimens are MARSHALL’S valid typical specimens or not. It was also MARSHALL’s habit that he usually indicated the locality name on the reverse side of the mounting card with his handwriting or on a small printed label glued to the mounting card either above or below. The locality names were written usually in an abbreviated form – the decoding of MARSHALL’s abbreviated locality names was given by MORLEY (1915).

My curatorial procedure in the fixation of MARSHALL’S type specimens was effected through the following steps: (1) finding the original description of the species, (2) matching the type locality (or localities) stated in the description with the locality on the specimen with red-lined identification label, (3) if the original description matches the red-lined specimen at hand and its locality name is identical to the one given in the description, the specimen is considered to belong to the syntype series.

The following type statuses were designated:
(1) Holotype: if it was unambiguously established that the original description had been based on a single specimen, the specimen was designated as the holotype.

(2) Lectotype: if the original description was based on two or more specimens and, up to this time, no type designation of the species was published in the literature, e.g. in SHENEFELT’s world catalogue of braconids (1969–1980), the first specimen (if possible, the female of the best condition) of the syntype series was designated as lectotype, and all further specimens as paralectotypes.

(3) Paralectotype: if lectotype (“Type”) designation of a species was published in the literature, the specimen(s) in the property of Museum Budapest was (were) considered as paralectotype(s). Before designation its (their) true paralectotype status was controlled.

As a result of my type designation of MARSHALL’s species purchased by and deposited in the Hungarian Natural History Museum, 35 syntype specimens representing 32 species, received the following type status: 7 holotypes, 12 lectotypes and 16 paralectotypes. My designations are subsequently presented in a detailed form answering the following items in the case of every species: original name by MARSHALL, pagination, locality, designation of the type specimen(s), inventory number (or Hym. Typ. No.), present condition of the type(s), identity or the present taxonomic status of the type(s) and, finally, indication of the species in SHENEFELT’s catalogue.

Larger part of the 32 nominative species by MARSHALL i.e. 21 species, remained taxonomically valid and the less proportion, i.e. 11 names, proved to be junior synonyms. Further details of the division of the valid and synonymous names see in the chapter “Alphabetic list of the species”.

LIST OF THE SPECIES WITH TYPE STATUS

In the subsequent list the subfamilies are enumerated in systematic order; the genera and the species alphabetically.

DORYCTINAE

missing, wings apically more or less shrivelled. – Identity: *Doryctes undulatus* (RATZEBURG, 1852). – SHENEFELT & MARSH 1976: 1279 (as valid species).

*Doryctes liogaster* MARSHALL, 1899: 372. – Locality: Tunesia, Ain Draham.


**ROGADINAE**


**BRACONINAE**


*Bracon comptus* MARSHALL, 1897: 74. – Locality: Spain, Barcelona. – One male paralectotype designated by J. PAPP in 1987, No. 10551. – Paralectotype in good condition: right flagellum damaged. – Identity: *Bracon urinator* (FABRICIUS, 1798) var. *comptus* (MARSHALL). – SHENEFELT 1978: 1652. – Note: one male paralectotype in Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, Madrid and one male paralectotype in Naturhistorisches Museum, Bern (both paralectotypes designated by J. PAPP in 1995). Female syntype where?, if it turns up in the future then this should be designated as the lectotype.


*Bracon eutrephes* MARSHALL, 1897: 73. – Locality: Spain, Iles Baléares, Palma de Mallorca. – Female lectotype designated by J. PAPP in 1989, No. 10556. – Lectotype in rather poor condition: body more or less mouldy, antennae (except left scape + pedicel) and tarsomeres 4–5 of right hind leg missing. – Identity: *Bracon (Glabrobracon) abbreviator* NEES, 1834 (= *B. eutrephes* MARSHALL jun. syn.). – SHENEFELT 1978: 1569 (as valid species).


**HELCONINAE**


**EUPHORINAE**


*Annis hist.-nat. Mus. nat. hung. 95, 2003*


**CHELONINAE**


**MICROGASTRINAE**

*Apanteles dimidiatus* MARSHALL in litteris. – Locality: Jamaica. – Two female specimens in good condition: flagelli damaged. – Identity: *Cotesia dimidiata* (MARSHALL) in litteris. – SHENEFELT 1972: –.

NEONEURINAE


OPIINAE


ALYSIINAE


ALPHABETIC LIST OF THE SPECIES

Valid names of the species are indicated in italics, invalid names are in roman style.

Allochronus trimoroderi MARSHALL, 1902 – valid.
Apanteles limbatus MARSHALL, 1885 – valid as Cotesia limbata (MARSHALL).
Aspilota praecipua MARSHALL, 1895 – junior synonym of Dinotrema erythropa FÖRSTER, 1862.

Annls hist.-nat. Mus. nat. hung. 95, 2003
Bracon comptus MARSHALL, 1895 – junior synonym of *Bracon urinatar* (FABRICIUS, 1798).
Bracon dolichurus MARSHALL, 1897 – valid as *Bracon* (*Glabrobracon*) *dolichurus* MARSHALL.
Bracon epitriptus MARSHALL, 1885 – valid as *Bracon* (*Orthobracon*) *epitriptus* MARSHALL.
Bracon eutrephes MARSHALL, 1897 – junior synonym of *Bracon* (*Glabrobracon*) *abbreviator* NEES, 1834.
*Bracon haemobaphes* MARSHALL, 1892 – valid.
Bracon leptus MARSHALL, 1897 – valid as *Bracon* (*Bracon*) *leptus* MARSHALL.
Chelonus antillarum MARSHALL, 1885 – valid.
Chelonus (Ascogaster) tritomus MARSHALL, 1898 – valid as *Phanerotoma* (*Bracotritoma*) *tritoma* (MARSHALL).
Dacnusa aquilegiae MARSHALL, 1896 – valid.
Dacnusa bathyzona MARSHALL, 1895 – valid as *Chorebus bathyzonus* (MARSHALL).
Dacnusa egregia MARSHALL, 1895 – junior synonym of *Chorebus gracilis* (NEES, 1834).
Dacnusa gyrina MARSHALL, 1895 – valid as *Chorebus gyrinus* (MARSHALL).
Dacnusa misella MARSHALL, 1895 – valid as *Chorebus misellus* (MARSHALL).
Danusa ovalis MARSHALL, 1896 – valid as *Chorebus ovalis* (MARSHALL).
Doryctes brachyurus MARSHALL, 1888 – junior synonym of *Doryctes undulatus* (RATZEBURG, 1852).
Doryctes liogaster MARSHALL, 1899 – junior synonym of *Doryctes leucogaster* (NEES, 1834).
Doryctes rex MARSHALL, 1897 – junior synonym of *Doryctes mutillator* (THUNBERG, 1822).
Euphorus ornatus MARSHALL, 1887 – junior synonym of *Leiophron apicalis* HALIDAY, 1833.
Euphorus tuberculifer MARSHALL, 1887 – junior synonym of *Peristenus relictus* (RUTHE, 1856).
Ipobracon konovi MARSHALL, 1897 – valid as *Cyanopterus* (*Iopbracon*) *konovi* (MARSHALL).
Mesocrina pugnatrix MARSHALL, 1895 – valid as *Opius pugnatrix* (MARSHALL).
Microoctonus splendidus MARSHALL, 1887 – valid as *Syntretus splendidus* (MARSHALL).
Neoneurus halidaii MARSHALL, 1897 – junior synonym of *Neoneurus auctus* (THOMSON, 1895).
*Phaenocarpa ingressor* MARSHALL, 1895 – valid.
Rhogas hemipterus MARSHALL, 1897 – valid as *Aleiodes hemipterus* (MARSHALL).
Rhoptrocentrus piceus MARSHALL, 1897 – valid.

Wesmaelia cremasta MARSHALL, 1872 – junior synonym of Wesmaelia petiolata (WOL LASTON, 1858).

Zombrus anisopus MARSHALL, 1897 – valid.

Zombrus madagascariensis MARSHALL, 1897 – valid.

REFERENCES


MARSHALL, T. A. (1872): Description of Wesmaelia cremasta, a new braconid from Great Britain and Spain. – Entomologist’s monthly Magazine 8: 257.


