

Nota

Neuroterus ambrusi Melika, Stone & Csóka, 1999: a new synonymy of *N. cerrifloralis* Müllner, 1901 (Hymenoptera: Cynipidae)

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Manuscript received in June 2007

Key words: Cynipidae, Hymenoptera, *Neuroterus*, *Neuroterus ambrusi*, *Neuroterus cerrifloralis*, synonymy, taxonomy.

Introduction

Recently, Melika et al. (1999) have described a new species from Hungary: *Neuroterus ambrusi*. Dalla Torre & Kieffer (1910) mentioned an Austrian species, *Neuroterus cerrifloralis* Müllner, whose gall is similar to the one produced by *N. ambrusi*.

Here in I have studied the type material of *Neuroterus cerrifloralis*, deposited in the Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, constituted by 14 entomological needles with multiple galls in catkins of *Q. cerris*, and 4 adult specimens (only one perfectly conserved). After comparing this material with two paratypes (2 males and 2 females) of *N. ambrusi* deposited in the author's collection (transferred by Dr. Melika in 1999), I have no doubt that both species are the same. Thus, I conclude that *Neuroterus ambrusi* Melika, Stone et Csóka, 1999 is a n. syn. of *Neuroterus cerrifloralis* Müllner, 1901.

Neuroterus cerrifloralis Müllner is a sexual form well characterized both by the gall and for the adult morphology (see original description of *N. ambrusi* in Melika et al., 1999). The gall is a hypertrophy of the anther. The filament converts the gall in pedunculated and the anther is partially visible and is joined to the lateral part of the gall (see Fig. 5 of Melika et al., 1999). Adults are characterized by the following characters: antennae with 14 flagellomeres in females and 15 in males (F1 longer than F2, strongly curved and distally expanded); scutum and scutellum glabrous, smooth and transparent; notauli absent; mesopleura finely striated in the dorsal part; propodeum with no carinae; simple tarsal claws, coxae partially yellowish; femurs yellow in the extremes and brown in the centre.

Females of *N. cerrifloralis* are morphologically close to *N. minutulus* Giraud, 1859 and *N. aggregatus* (Wachtl, 1880); however, *N. minutulus* has the legs completely brown and *N. aggregatus* completely yellow, differing then from *N. cerrifloralis*; moreover, in the case of *N. aggregatus*, vein R1 is longer than vein 2r, while in *N. cerrifloralis* these veins are of equal length; on the other hand, *N. minutulus* is an agamic form.

Males are similar to *N. saliens* (Kollar, 1857) but the sculpture of the mesopleura (finely striated in *N. cerrifloralis* and finely alutaceous in *N. saliens*) and the relative size of the mesoscutum (as long as wide in *N. cerrifloralis*, longer than wide in *N. saliens*) allows differentiating both species.

Galls of *N. cerrifloralis* are different from any other known gall.

Studied material

Type material of *N. cerrifloralis*: deposited in the Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, constituted by 14 entomological needles with multiple galls in catkins of *Q. cerris*, and 4 adult specimens (only one perfectly preserved). LECTOTYPE (female, designated herein) with the following labels: "Collect. G. Mayr" (white label), "Neur. cerrifloralis det. Müllner Type" (handwritten, white label), "cerrifloralis Müllner Typ" (handwritten, white label), "Lectotype Neuroterus cerrifloralis Müllner, 1901 desig. JP-V 2007, det J.P-V 2007" (red label); PARALECTOTYPES: 1 male (deteriorated), 2 females (deteriorated) and 16 catkins with galls mounted in several pins (one deposited in JP-V collection) all of them with similar labels.

Type material examined of *N. ambrusi*: 2 males and 2 females, deposited in JP-V collection, with the following labels: "Hungary, Tatabánya, ex catkin gall on *Q. cerris*, G. Stone, 12.05.997" (white label), "Paratype Neuroterus ambrusi Melika desig G. Melika 997" (red label).

Acknowledgements

I am very grateful to Manuela Vizek (Naturhistorisches Museum Wien, Austria) for sending me the type material of *Neuroterus cerrifloralis* and to George Melika (Systematic Parasitoid Laboratory Plant Protection and Soil Conservation, Tanakajd, Hungary) for the paratypes of *Neuroterus ambrusi*. I also am very grateful to my friends Josep Santamaría and Jordi Paretas-Martínez for helping me with the English spelling and to Jordi Paretas-Martínez for their criticism.

References

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