

NOTE ON TWO LITTLE KNOWN SPECIES OF  
*ANTROCEPHALUS* KIRBY (HYMENOPTERA :  
CHALCIDIDAE) FROM INDIA

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Two little known species of *Antrocephalus* KIRBY viz. *A. dividens* (WALKER) and *A. renalis* WATERSTON are redescribed with a correction of the generic status of the former species. A new synonym of *A. renalis* is reported.

The paper contains redescrptions of two oriental species of *Antrocephalus* KIRBY collected from different places in South India. The earlier descriptions of these two species are vague and without sufficient illustrations, making it rather difficult to establish their precise identity. Hence this account. A mistaken generic identification of *A. dividens* (WALKER) is corrected and this species has been recorded for the first time from India. A new synonym of *A. renalis* WATERSTON is reported.

**1. *Antrocephalus dividens* (WALKER)**  
comb. nova. (Figs. 1-7)

*Chalcis dividens* (WALKER) 1860, *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.*, 6 : 357. *Brachymeria dividens* (WALKER) : MANI, 1938, *Cat. Ind. Ins.*, 3 : 54.

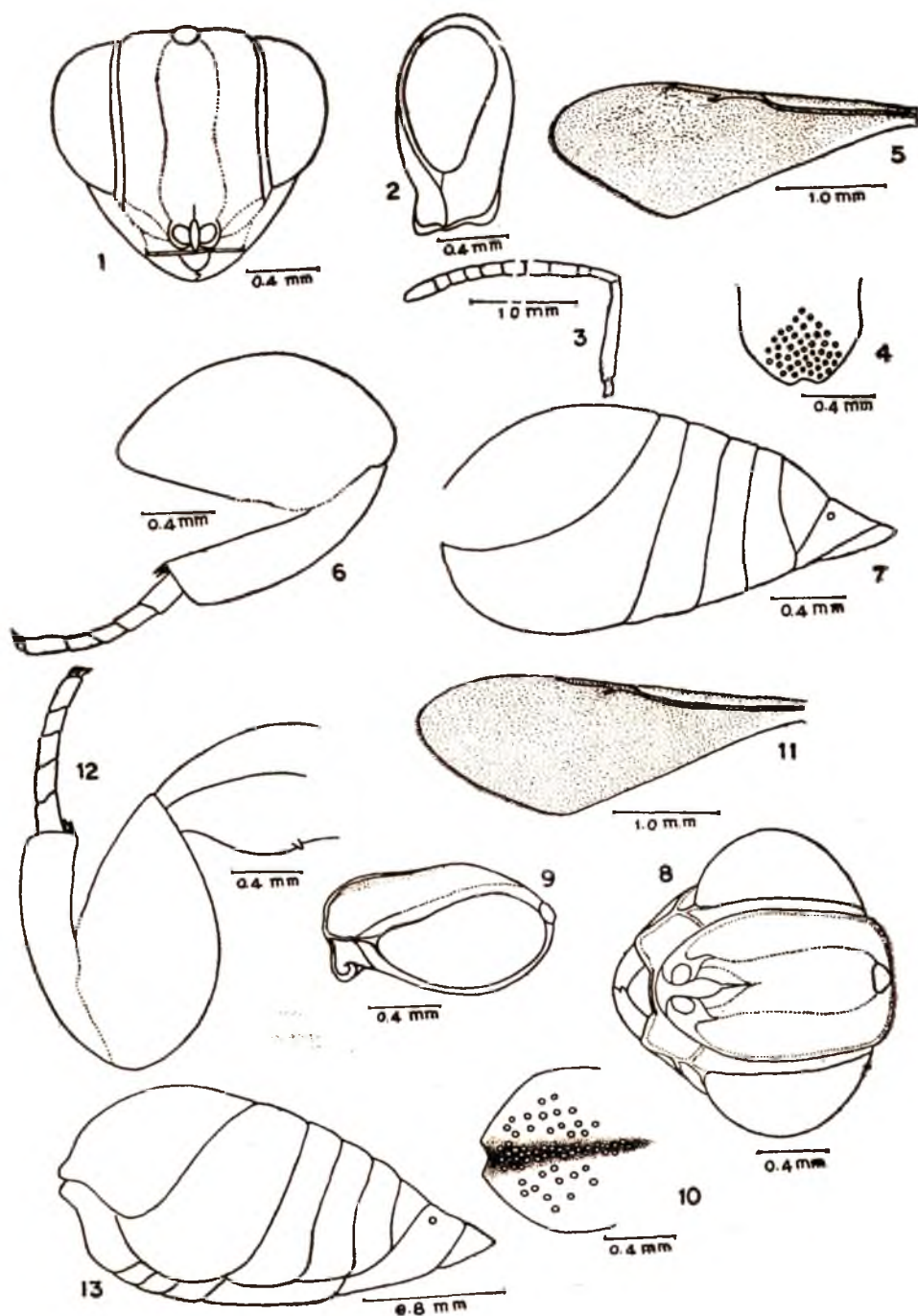
Female : Length 5.3 mm. Head black, eyes pale yellowish-black; antenna black; thorax black, shiny; tegulae reddish-black; wings hyaline, veins brown; all legs except the black fore coxa, ferruginous-red; abdomen black; shiny. Pubescence yellowishwhite.

Head (Figs. 1 & 2) : width a little more than the width of thorax, surface distinctly pitted. Median ocellus a trifle larger than

the lateral; the distance between median and lateral ocelli about half the interocellar distance; interocular space a little over one and three-fourths interocellar distance; width of ocellar area a little more than four-fifths as wide as interocular space; interocellar distance a little over three times the maximum diameter of the lateral ocelli. Antenna (Fig. 3) slender; scape not quite reaching the front ocellus.

Thorax : With rounded pits on dorsal side; interspaces of pits shiny, as wide as or half as wide as the diameter of the pits on scutellum and mesoscutum; on the pronotum the interspaces narrow and rugose; anterior carinae on pronotum distinct, bituberculate, scutellum a little less than one and one fifth as long as wide; apical margin as in figure 4. Fore wing and its veins are as in figure 5. Hind coxa on ventral side densely punctate and pubescent, dorso-outer side smooth and shiny without a distinct tooth near base; hind femur (Fig. 6) with minute pits and moderate pubescence on outer side, inner side with less pits and less pubescence and without an inner basal tooth.

Abdomen (Fig. 7) about as long as the combined length of pronotum, mesoscutum, scutellum and propodeum; first tergite



Figs. 1-7. *A. dividens* (WALK.), female: 1. head; 2. head lateral aspect; 3. antenna; 4. scutellum dorsal aspect; 5. forewing; 6. hindfemur; 7. abdomen lateral aspect.  
 Figs. 8-13. *A. renalis* WATERSTON, female: 8. head; 9. head lateral aspect; 10. scutellum dorsal aspect; 11. forewing; 12. hindfemur; 13. abdomen lateral aspect.

smooth and shiny, base with short carina on each side of the median fovea (as long as the fovea); second tergite with faint pits and sparse pubescence.

Male : Length 4.7 mm. Colour of the legs slightly different from female; coxae black with apices of mid and of hind coxae reddish; fore and mid femora and their tibiae almost black with their apices reddish; hind femur and tibia ferruginous red as in female. Abdomen distinctly shorter than the combined length of pronotum, mesoscutum, scutellum and propodeum together.

#### Specimens examined

1 female (Plesiotype) coll. No. 2551 on pin, India : Calicut., Coll. T. C. NARENDRAN on 6-xi-1969. 1 female coll. No. 2566 on pin, India : Calicut, coll. T. C. NARENDRAN on 28-3-1970. 1 male coll. No. 2559 collection data same as for 2551.

#### Distribution

This species had been originally recorded from Sri Lanka (Ceylon). The present author records this species for the first time from India.

#### Remarks

This species *A. dividens* was first described by WALKER (1860) and he wrongly included the species under the genus *Chalcis* of authors (not of FABRICIUS). Later this species continued to be known wrongly as *Brachymeria dividens* (WALKER) when GAHAN & FAGAN (1923) synonymised the genus *Chalcis* of authors (not of FABRICIUS) with the genus *Brachymeria* WESTWOOD.

#### 2. *Antrocephalus renalis* WATERSTON (Figs. 8-13)

*Antrocephalus renalis* WATERST. 1922, *Ind. For. Rec.*, 9 : 69 *Stomatoceras sulcaticutellum*, GIRAULT, 1971, *Descr. Chal. var.*

*Cum.* 5 : 9 Syn. nov. (Type present in U. S. National Museum, Washington D.C. Locality : India : Coimbatore).

Female : Length 5.0 mm. Head black; eyes brownish black; antenna reddish black; thorax black; shiny; tegulae brownish black. Wings almost hyaline; veins of fore wings brown with the submarginal pale. Legs black. Abdomen black, shiny. Pubescence yellowish white.

Head (Figs. 8 & 9) : Width a little more than the width of thorax, surface rather shallowly pitted with a line of deeper pits along the inner margin of compound eyes. Median ocellus a little larger than the lateral; the distance between median and lateral ocelli about half the interocular distance; interocular space a trifle over two and one fifth times the interocular distance; width of ocellar area a little over four-fifths as wide as interocular space; interocular distance two and one fourth times as wide as the maximum diameter of the lateral ocelli. Antennae somewhat stout; scape reaching the front ocellus, length subequal to the combined length of segments two to six; pedicel as long as segment four, almost twice as long as wide; ring segment as long as wide; fourth segment a little shorter than twice the length of ring segment, one and two-thirds as long as wide; fifth segment slightly shorter and slightly wider than fourth segment; sixth segment a little shorter and a little wider than fifth segment (rest of the segments are found missing from the antennae).

Thorax : with rather small pits on dorsal side; interspaces of pits shiny and in most places of scutellum and mesoscutum as wide as or wider than the diameter of pits; pronotum with distinct anterior carinae at sides, turning faint near the middle, not forming tubercles; scutellum about one and one-fifth times as long as

wide and as in figure 10. Fore wing and its veins are as in figure 11. Hind coxa a little less than three-fourths the length of hind femur, ventral side minutely and densely punctate with pubescence, dorso-outer side smooth and shiny with a tooth near base; hind femur (Fig. 12) outer and inner sides moderately pitted and moderately pubescent, interspaces between the pits rugose; inner side with a distinct basal tooth.

Abdomen (Fig. 13) : Longer than the combined length of pronotum, mesoscutum, scutellum and propodeum together; first tergite smooth and shiny with the base having short but distinct carina on each side of the median fovea (as long as the fovea); second tergite with pubescent pits on sides; sixth tergite rugulose and with shallow pits.

#### Plesiotype

1 female coll. No. C. U. 2582 on pin, India: Andhra, Coll. P. SANJIV RAO on 12-i-1969.

**Distribution** : Sri Lanka and India.

Host : *Nephantis serinopa* M. (Lep., Xyloryctidae)

**Remarks** : A specimen identified by Dr. B. D. BURKS (U. S. National Museum,

Washington D.C., U.S.A.) as *Antrocephalus sulcatiscutellum* (GIRAULT) is present in the Department of Zoology, University of Calicut. Dr. BURKS identified this specimen after comparing the type specimen of *Stomatoceras sulcatiscutellum* (GIRAULT) present in the U.S. National Museum. When the present author compared this specimen with the plesiotype of *Antrocephalus renalis* WATERSTON, he is convinced that the species *sulcatiscutellum* is a new synonym of *Antrocephalus renalis* WATERSTON.

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