

FIRST RECORD OF THE TRICHOGRAMMATID CHALCID GENUS  
*CHAETOSTRICHA* WALKER FROM INDIA, WITH A DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES.

By M. S. MANI.

(From the Entomological Section, Zoological Survey of India, Indian Museum, Calcutta.)

The genus *Chaetostricha*<sup>1</sup> of Haliday's manuscript was established by Walker<sup>2</sup> in 1851, with *C. dimidiata* as the type-species. Since then six more species of the genus have been described: *C. pretiosa* and *C. minutissimum* from America by Riley<sup>3</sup> and Packard<sup>4</sup> respectively, *C. wernerii*, *C. schlicki* and *C. pulchra* from Denmark by Kryger<sup>5</sup> and *C. phaseoli* from West Indies by Dozier<sup>6</sup>. The genus has not been recorded from India so far. In an interesting collection of Trichogrammatid egg parasite of *Bruchus quadrimaculatus* Fabr. submitted to me for identification by Mr. Durga Das Mukerji, University Lecturer in Zoology, University College of Science, Calcutta, I found this genus represented by a new species, which I describe below under the name *C. mukerjii*, sp. nov. The genus runs between *Trichogramma* Westw. and *Lathromeris* Först. in Ashmead's tables<sup>7</sup>. It is distinguished from the former by its 7-articulate antennae (scape 1, pedicel 1, ring-joint 1, funicle joint 1, club joints 3) and from the latter by the long marginal fringes of its fore wings.

I thank Mr. Durga Das Mukerji for giving me an opportunity of studying this extremely interesting parasite.

***Chaetostricha mukerjii*, sp. nov.**

This species differs materially from all the other species of the genus described so far and is readily distinguished by the indistinct apical segment of the club of antennae.

♀ ♂ Length about 0.4—0.5 mm. Head with a width about half the length of body, rather deeply and broadly grooved both in front and at the back. Antennae a little less than one third the length of body, brownish, rather densely clothed with long, fine setae, stout; scape somewhat attenuated beyond the basal half; pedicel about two thirds the length of scape, apical diameter about twice the basal; ring joint fairly thick; funicle joint about three fourths the length of pedicel, somewhat slender basally; club about twice the length of pedicel,

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<sup>1</sup> Förster and Girault have spelt as *Chaetosticha*, but I have adopted as correct the original spelling in Walker's paper.

<sup>2</sup> Walker, *Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist.*, (2) VII, p. 211, (1851).

<sup>3</sup> Riley, *Canad. Entomol.*, II, p. 161, (1879).

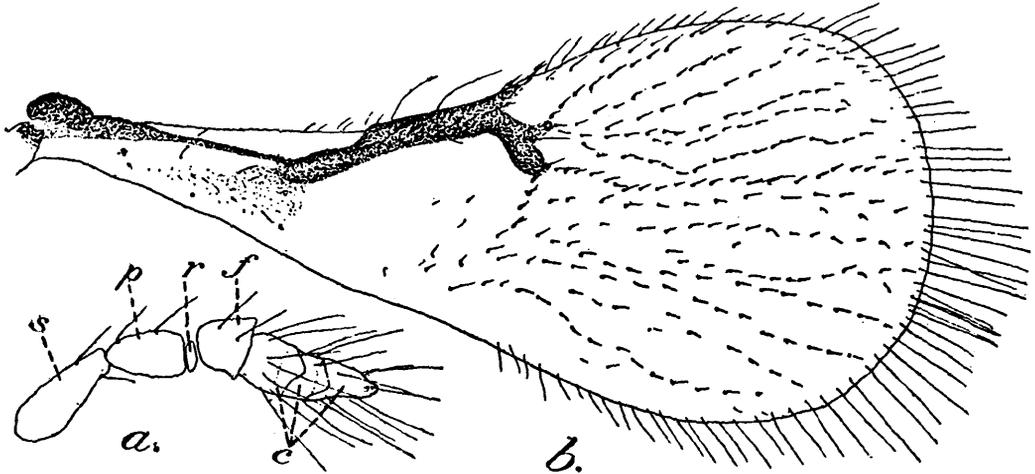
<sup>4</sup> Packard, *Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.*, XXI, p. 37, (1881).

<sup>5</sup> Kryger, *Kobenhaven Entomol. Medd.*, XII, pp. 306-309, (1922).

<sup>6</sup> Dozier, *Proc. Entomol. Soc. Washington*, XXXIV, p. 31, (1932).

<sup>7</sup> Ashmead, *Mem. Carnegie Mus.* I, (4), p. 360, (1904).

gradually tapering to a rounded tip, more slender than the funicle joint, triarticulate, basal two segments of almost equal lengths, apical segment somewhat more slender and longer, covered with longer setae than the other antennal segments. Eyes dark reddish brown. Ocelli



TEXT-FIG. 1. *Chaetostricha mukerjii*, sp. nov. a. antenna; b. fore wing. c. club; f. funicle joint; p. pedicel; r. ring joint; s. scape.

reddish, the lateral ones separated from the margin of eyes by a distance nearly equal to their diameters. Thorax half the length of body. Mesonotum and scutellum smooth, the latter of a length about two thirds that of the mesonotum in the median line and dark brownish to black in colour. Legs moderately setose, mostly brownish black, except the bases and apices of femur and tibia which are dirty white or brownish. Fore wing with a length a little over twice its greatest breadth; submarginal vein about three fourths the length of the marginal vein, both sooty brownish in colour. Abdomen black. General colour of body mostly dark brownish to black.

*Cotypes.* 2 ex. dissected on slide No.  $\frac{901}{H\ 3}$ , 1 ex. on slide No.  $\frac{900}{H\ 3}$ , 8 ex. on card No.  $\frac{902}{H\ 3}$ . In the collections of the Zoological Survey of India (Ind. Mus.), Calcutta. Coll. Durga Das Mukerji, Calcutta. Parasitic on the gram pest *Bruchus quadrimaculatus* Fabr.