

A NEW MESOSTENINE GENUS *PSEUDOTRICAPUS* FROM INDIA
(HYMENOPTERA : ICHNEUMONIDAE)

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ABSTRACT

Pseudotricapus longipetiolatus gen. et. sp. nov., is described from Darjeeling District of West Bengal and Sikkim.

The new genus *Pseudotricapus* belongs to subtribe Goryphina of the tribe Mesostenini [family Ichneumonidae, subfamily Cryptinae (Gelinae)]. In the key to genera of Goryphina (Townes, 1970 : 239), it runs to the genus *Tricapus* Townes. It shows affinities with this by having genal carina strongly curved and joining hypostomal carina at the base of mandible, in other genera of the subtribe the genal carina joins the hypostomal carina a distance above the base of mandible (Townes, 1970 : 250), clypeus with a median tooth and first tergite with basal lateral tooth. It also shows affinities with *Colaulus* Townes, but differs in having a distinct median apical tooth on clypeus, genal carina ending at the base of mandible, or in other words both the carinae meeting at the basal corner of mandible, both mandibular teeth almost equal in size and sternaulus reaching about 0.6 the distance to middle coxa.

This new genus is described from material collected in the North-Eastern Himalayan Region (Sikkim ; Gangtok and West Bengal :

Darjeeling district) and can be recognized from the most allied genera, viz., *Tricapus* Townes and *Colaulus* Townes by the following key :

- 1. Genal carina weakly sinuate, joining hypostomal carina above base of mandible ; clypeus weakly convex, without apical median tooth ; mandible with its lower tooth shorter than upper tooth ...

Colaulus
Townes

Genal carina strongly sinuate or curved, joining hypostomal carina at base of mandible ; clypeus with a median apical tooth ; lower tooth of mandible more or less equal to or half as long as upper tooth.....

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- 2. Mandible with its lower tooth half as long as upper tooth ; epomia absent ; sternaulus short, reaching about 0.4 the distance to middle coxa ; nervellus intercepted a little above its center ; brachiella reaching 0.7 the distance to wing margin.....

Tricapus
Townes

Mandible with almost equal teeth ;
 epomia present ; sternaulus
 reaching 0.6 the distance to middle
 coxa ; nervellus intercepted at its
 lower 0.4 ; branchiella faintly
 present..... *Pseudo-*
tricapus, gen. nov.

Genus *Pseudotricapus*, nov.
 (Fig. 1, a-d)

Description ; Body slender, the head
 rather wider than long. Frons with a

median vertical carina (Fig. 1,b). Face short,
 wider than long, with a median and two
 lateral swellings. Clypeus somewhat rect-
 angular at base with a transverse swelling, its
 apical margin weakly arched and with a
 pointed median tooth (Fig. 1,b). Genal
 carina sinuate and joining hypostomal carina
 at thg base of mandible. Mandible strong
 with almost equal teeth : malar space and
 area near the base of mandible strongly
 depressed. Epomia moderate in size.

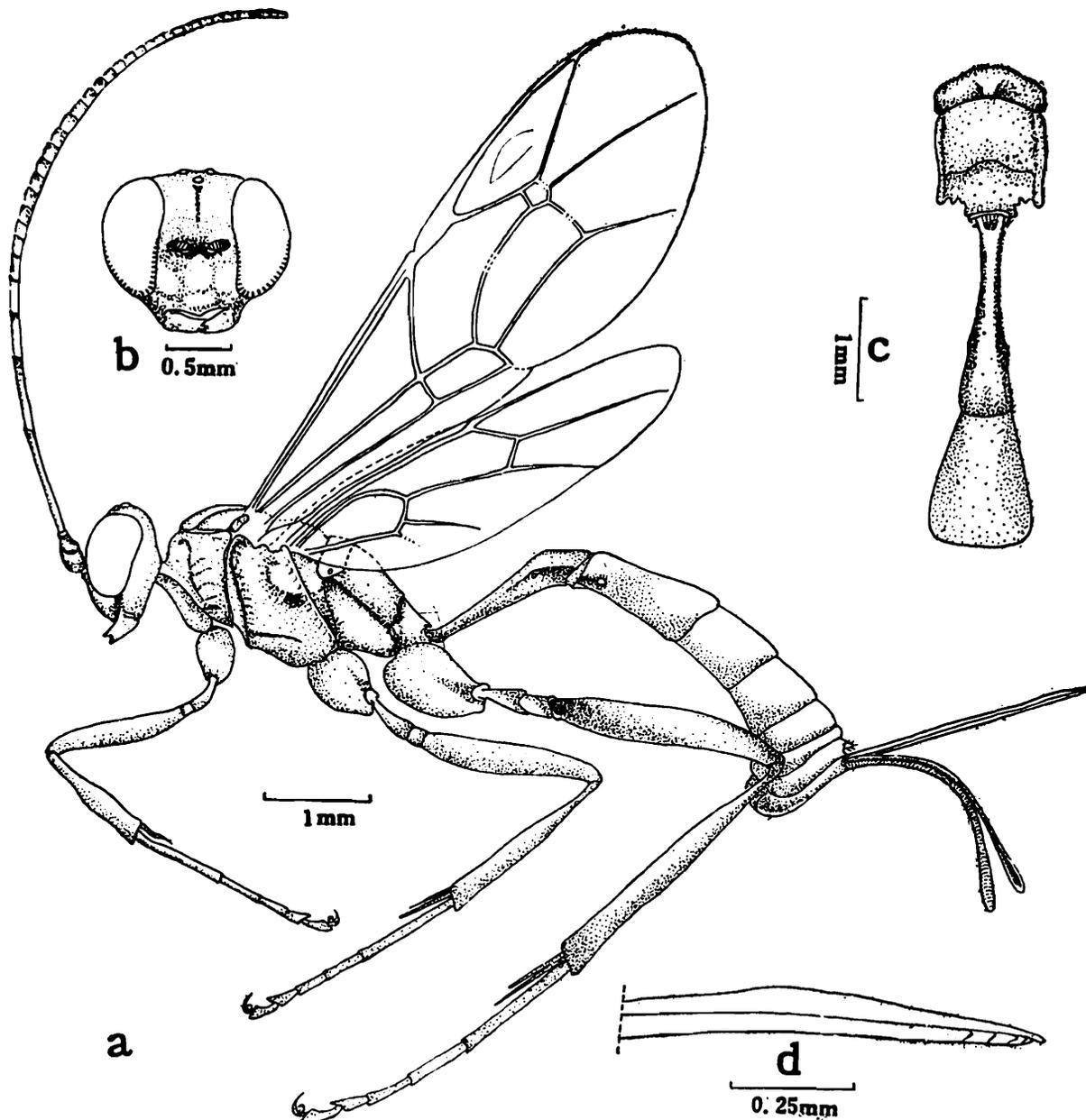


Fig. 1. *Pseudotricapus longipetiolatus*, gen. et. sp. nov. : a, side view of whole insect ; b, head in front view ; c, propodeum and first tergite in dorsalview ; d, ovipositor tip.

Notauli long and deep and meeting each other behind scutellum. Sternaulus deep with cross-ridges in the groove, extending ± 0.6 the length of mesopleurum. Propodeum (Fig. 1, a,c) long in profile, both the transverse carinae weakly arched and complete, apical carina forming lowcrest-like apophysis; spiracle about $2.5 \times$ as long as wide. Areolet pentagonal, about $0.6 \times$ as high as the portion of second recurrent vein above bulla. intercubiti weakly convergent, second recurrent evenly arched. Nervulus interstitial, postnervulus intercepted above the middle. Nervellus intercepted at its lower 0.4 , brachiella faintly present (Fig. 1, a). First tergite long and slender, about $3.6 \times$ as long as wide at apex, at base with distinct lateral tooth, petiolar area long and tubular, postpetiole longer than wide, spiracles closer to each other than to apex, dorsomedian carinae absent, dorso-lateral and venro-lateral carinae present between spiracle and

apex; spiracle minute, round (Fig. 1, a, c); ovipositor long, about as long as hind tibia, its tip long and pointed, lower valve with 3-4 weak teeth (Fig. 1, d).

Type-species and single known species : *Pseudotricapus longipetolatus*, gen. et. sp. nov.

***Pseudotricapus longipetiolatus*, sp. nov.**

(Fig. 2. a-c)

Female : Face subpolished, ruguloso-punctate, punctures shallow, face on lateral swellings minutely and sparsely punctate. Clypeus sparsely and shallowly punctate at the basal swelling, rest smooth and shiny. Malar space granulose, about equal to the basal width of mandible. Frons largely smooth and shiny except with a few scattered small punctures in the middle. Vertex and temple smooth and shiny, except temple below sparsely punctate. Pronotal collar smooth, striate in the scrobe, obliquely striato-wrinkled above, with sparse punctures

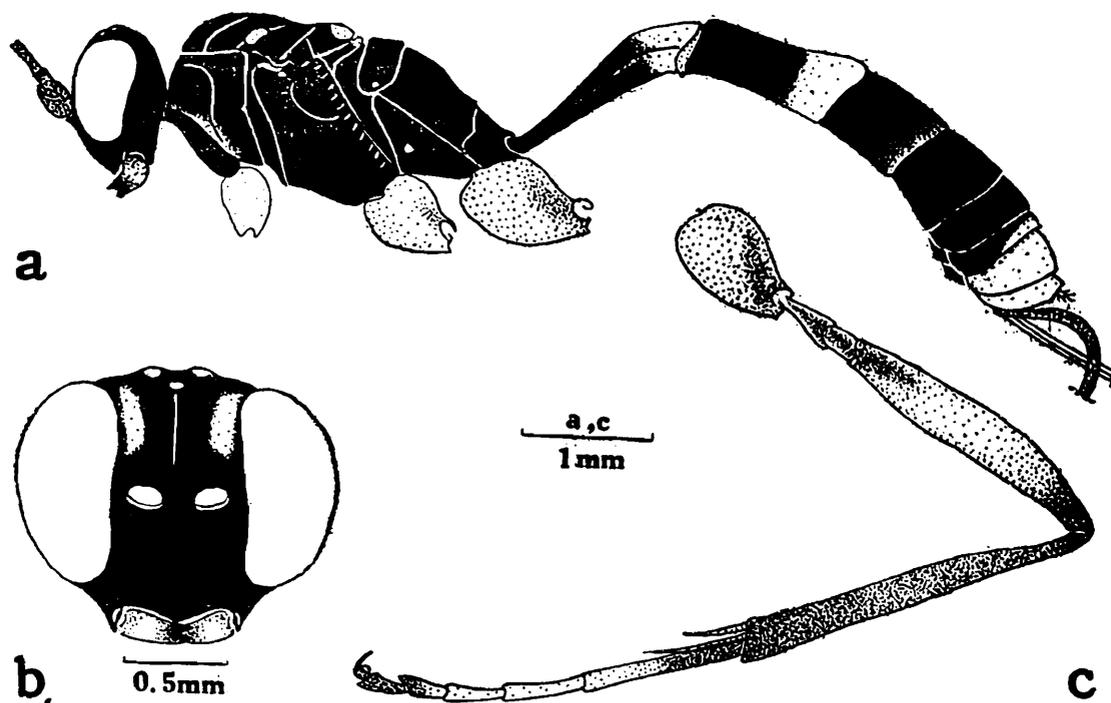


Fig. 2. *Pseudotricapus longipetiolatus*, sp. nov. showing colour pattern : a, body side view ; b, head front view ; c, hind leg.

in between the striae. Mesoscutum smooth and shiny. Scutellum, metascutellum smooth and shiny, lateral carinae more or less confined to the base. Mesopleurum smooth and polished, prepactal carina extending up to the base of subtegmental ridge, short ridges present in the groove along the prepectal carina, short striae also present along the anterior margin of speculum to the base of subtegmental ridge. Metapleurum subpolished weakly punctate, juxtacoxal carina absent. Propodeum between apical carina and base smooth and shiny, except for a few scattered shallow punctures, apical of apical carina rugose. First tergite with sparse punctures in the apical half, rest smooth; second and third tergites with dense fine puncture, following tergites mat and subpolished; other structures and wing venation as under generic description.

Black. Antennal flagellum from apex of 5th to 11th segments above, white; scape and pedicel reddish-brown in front. Clypeus at base, mandible except the teeth, orbital stripes (Fig. 2, b) on frons, pronotal collar narrowly, tegula, subtegmental ridge, apical 0.45 of scutellum, metascutellum, apices of abdominal tergites first to third, sixth in the middle, seventh and eighth wholly, yellow (Fig. 2, a). Fore and middle legs with their coxae and trochanters yellowish, their femora, tibiae and tarsi, dark yellow, except middle tarsus clouded with dark brown. Hind leg (Fig. 2, c) with coxa, trochanter and femur yellowish-brown with an oval yellow mark above on coxa, its trochanter and femur at apex dark brown, its tibia blackish with light yellow at base, tarsus white except basal 0.5 of its first segment and whole of fifth segment and apex of sixth, blackish; wings clear hyaline.

Male: Similar to female in all respects; except body more polished and slender; upper margin of pronotum shiny with sparse minute punctures; 11th to 15th flagellar segments white; clypeus without any mark; orbital mark on frons small, oval; almost all the tergites narrowly and seventh tergite broadly, yellow.

Length: ♀, Body 5.2-9 mm; fore wing 4-6 mm; ovipositor sheath 1.75-2.25. ♂, Body 5.75-8 mm; fore wing 4.5-5.75.

Holotype: ♀, INDIA: SIKKIM: Gangtok, 1650 m, 11.v.1966, colls. D. T. Tikar and J. K. Jonathan, colln, Nos. T 242 & J 148. *Paratypes* 6 ♀♀, 42 ♂♂. INDIA: SIKKIM: Gangtok, 1650 m, 3 ♀♀, 21 ♂♂, 11 & 12. v.-18. v. 1966, colls, V. K. Gupta, J. K. Jonathan, M. K. Mamath, D. T. Tikkar, D. Ram, T. Chand, colln, Nos. 178, J 148-154, K 108 & 111, T 256-260. WEST BENGAL: Rangiroon, 2000 m, near Darjeeling, 3 ♀♀, 20 ♂♂, 25.v.-29.v. 1960, colls. V. K. Gupta, J. K. Jonathan, M. K. Mamath, T. Chand, colln. Nos. 186, J 157 & 159, K. 116-120.

Distribution: India: Sikkim and West Bengal.

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REFERENCE

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