

A new Holarctic genus, *Spathicopsis* gen. nov., belonging to the Euphorinae, Centistini (Hym., Braconidae)

by

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ABSTRACT. — A new genus and a new species, *Spathicopsis flavocephala* gen. nov. et spec. nov., are described. The distribution is Holarctic and it possesses a depressed ovipositor. A key to the genera of the tribe Centistini of the subfamily Euphorinae is added.

INTRODUCTION

During my revision of the tribe Blacini (Helconinae) I was faced with the problem of the genus *Neoblacus* Ashmead, 1900. Because the type of the type-species is lost (except for a fore leg; Van Achterberg, 1976: 244), the interpretation of this insufficiently described genus was arbitrary. The problem was solved by designation of a neotype for the type-species of *Neoblacus*, which by this action became a subgenus of *Blacus* Nees, 1818.

A new genus name is necessary for another species-group, which was generally included in *Neoblacus* because of the convergent wing venation. The new genus has to be transferred to the tribe Centistini of the subfamily Euphorinae and its position in this tribe is illustrated by a key to the genera. Figures are given of most of the characters used, after specimens present in the author's collection. For the terminology used, see Van Achterberg, 1976 (p. 160-166).

Key to genera of the tribe Centistini

1. Dorsope large (fig. 5, 12); length of ovipositor sheath at least 4 times its maximum width or longer (fig. 1, 20); notauli complete (fig. 6) 2
- Dorsope absent (fig. 21); length of ovipositor sheath less than 3 times its maximum width (fig. 16, 17); notauli often more or less reduced 3
2. Ovipositor comparatively wide basolaterally and somewhat depressed apically (fig. 3, 4), especially the lower valve; cu 1 absent (fig. 7); first metasomal tergite sessile, dilated apicad (fig. 5); tarsi stout (fig. 9, 10) *Spathicopsis* gen. nov.
- Ovipositor strongly compressed (like the blade of a knife; fig. 19, 20); cu 1 present (fig. 11); first tergite slightly or not dilated apicad and sessile (fig. 12); tarsi comparatively slender (fig. 18) *Pygostolus* Haliday, 1833
3. Hind coxa with a ventrolateral tooth apically (fig. 17); tarsal claw bifurcate (fig. 15); ♀ with 4th metasomal sternite with a pair of teeth (fig. 17); laterope comparatively small, usually hardly visible *Allurus* Foerster, 1862
- Hind coxa without tooth; tarsal claw simple (fig. 13); ♀ without teeth on the 4th sternite, only in some species a pair of teeth on the 5th sternite (fig. 16); laterope large, easily visible (*Centistes* Haliday s.l.) 4
4. cu 1 (fig. 14), notauli and precoxal suture absent; metasoma without ventral teeth subgenus *Syrrhizus* Foerster, 1862
- cu 1 present; notauli and precoxal suture often more or less developed; metasoma sometimes with ventral teeth (fig. 16) 5
5. Notauli absent, at least posteriorly subgenus *Centistes* Haliday, 1835
- Notauli complete (cf. fig. 6) subgenus *Ancylocentrus* Foerster, 1862

Spathicopsis gen. nov. (fig. 1—10)

Type-species: *Spathicopsis flavocephala* spec. nov.

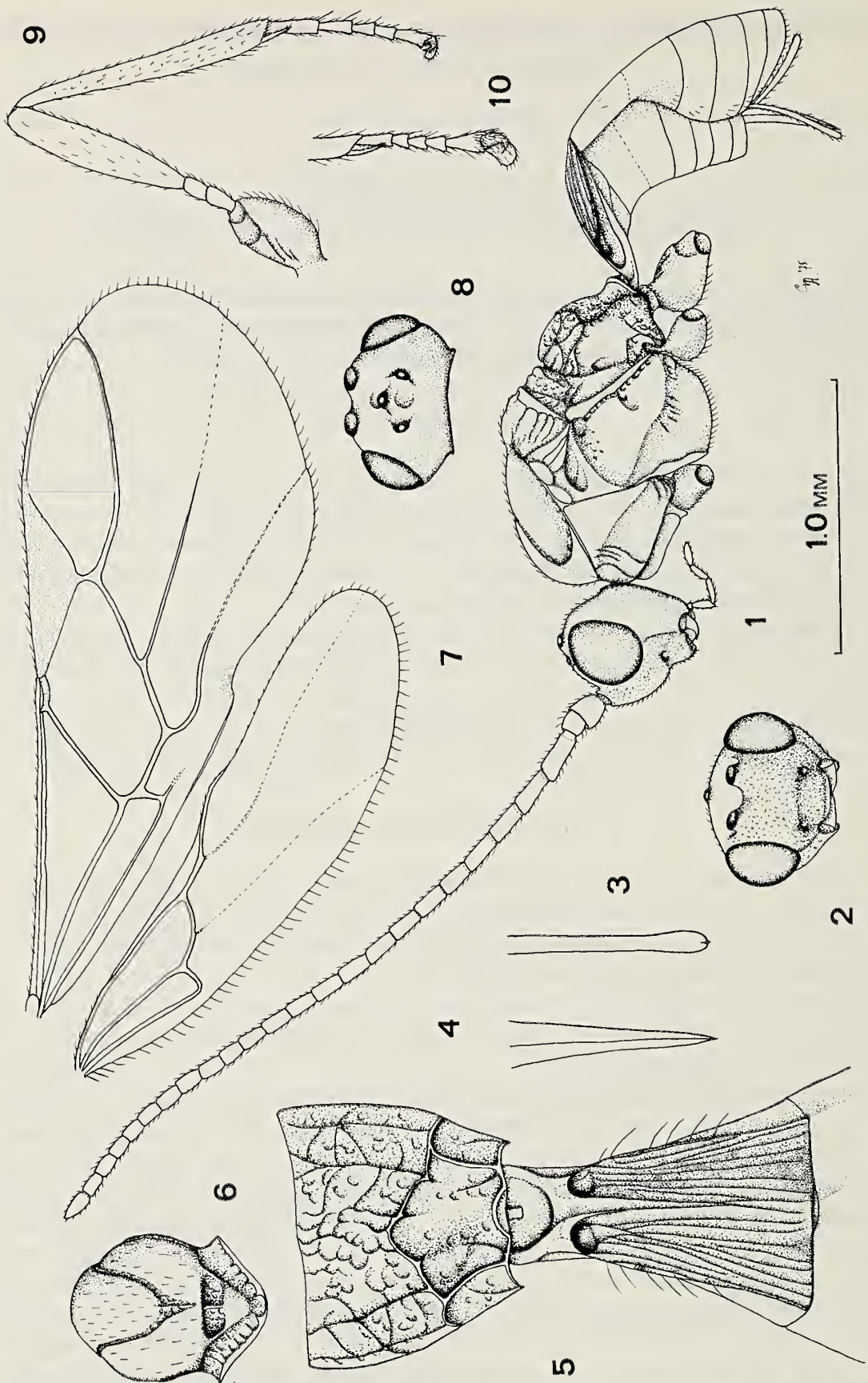


Fig. 1—9. *Spathicopsis flavocephala* gen. nov. et spec. nov., holotype. 1, habitus, lateral aspect; 2, head, frontal aspect; 3, ovipositor, dorsal aspect; 4, ovipositor, lateral aspect; 5, propodeum and first metasomal tergite, dorsal aspect; 6, mesonotum, dorsal aspect; 7, wings; 8, head, dorsal aspect; 9, hind leg, lateral aspect. Fig. 10, paratype of same species from Wijster, ♀, tarsus of fore leg, lateral aspect. Fig. 1, 2, 6-10: scale-line; 3-5: 2.0 times scale-line.

Etymology: From „spatha” (Latin for “broad blade”) and “copis” (Latin for “cleaver”) because of the depressed ovipositor. Gender: feminine.

Diagnosis. — Antenna with moderate number of segments; maxillary palp 6-segmented; labial palp 3-segmented; eye bare; occipital carina complete; epistomal and malar sutures

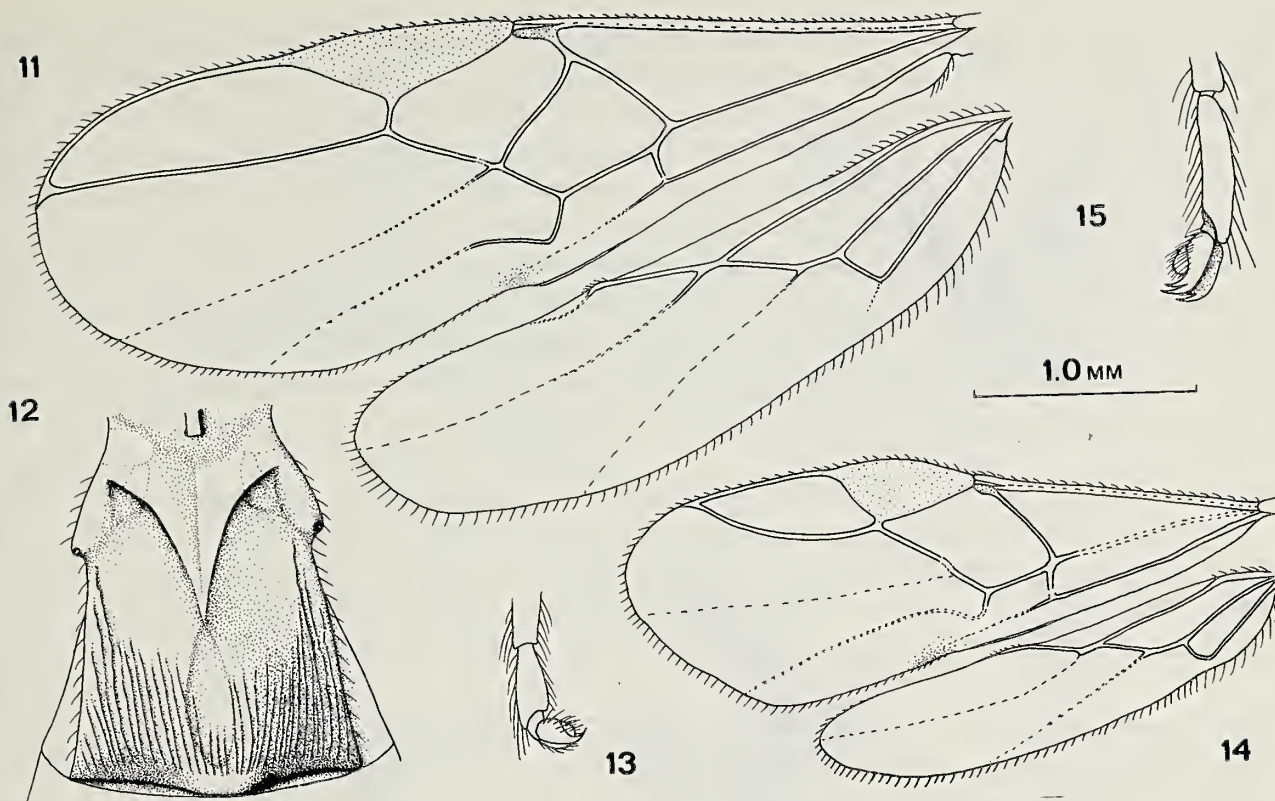


Fig. 11—15. 11, 12. *Pygostolus falcator* (Nees), ♀, Netherlands, Kemperberg, 25.VII.1949. 11, wings; 12, first metasomal tergite, dorsal aspect. 13, 14, *Centistes (Syrrhizus) delusorius* (Foerster), ♀, Netherlands, Lienden, V.1966. 13, hind claw, lateral aspect; 14, wings; 15, *Allurus muricatus* (Haliday), ♀, Netherlands, Meyendel, 11-18.VII.1974; hind claw, lateral aspect. Fig. 11: scale-line; 12: 2.5 times scale-line; 13, 15: 3.0 times scale-line; 14: 1.2 times scale-line.

present; prepectal carina complete, irregular (fig. 1); precoxal suture mainly reduced; metapleural flange large, blunt (fig. 1); notauli complete; scutellum small, its lateral carina absent (fig. 6); cu 1 absent; parastigma medium-sized; first brachial cell open posteriorly, sm 2 mainly absent (fig. 7); m'1 much longer than m'2; aqu 1 + 2 and aqu' absent; length of hind femur 5.0 times its width; tarsi comparatively stout and short (fig. 9, 10); dorsal surface of propodeum somewhat shorter than its posterior surface (fig. 1); length of first metasomal tergite 1.5-1.6 times its apical width, subsessile; dorsope large and deep, forming with the very deep and large laterope a diplope; second and following tergites smooth; hypopygium small; ovipositor sheath slender (fig. 1), 0.12-0.13 times fore wing; ovipositor straight and its apex depressed, in dorsal aspect with the sides subparallel (fig. 3) and in lateral aspect narrowed apicad (fig. 4).

Distribution. — Holarctic: one species.

Note. — Because of the deep laterope, of the stout and peculiar shaped ovipositor, of the shape of the notauli anteriorly and of the propodeum this genus belongs to the tribe Centistini of the subfamily Euphorinae.

Spathicopsis flavocephala spec. nov. (fig. 1—10)

Holotype, ♀, length of body 2.7 mm, length of fore wing 2.6 mm.

Head. — Antennal segments 25 (26 in both paratypes from Wijster and Palmer), densely covered with whitish setae, its third segment 1.1 times fourth segment, length of third and fourth segments 3.0 and 2.8 times their width, respectively, the penultimate segments about 1.7 times their width; palpi medium-sized, maxillary palp somewhat shorter than height of head; dorsal length of eye 1.6 times temple; temple and vertex smooth; ocelli rather large; POL: \emptyset ocellus: OOL = 9:3:4; frons almost flat; stemmaticum somewhat protruding; area in front of occipital carina smooth; face and clypeus dull (but face rather glossy in paratype from Livingston), finely coriaceous; anterior tentorial pits deep, rather large (fig. 2); clypeus convex, its apical margin thin and rather wide; labrum not visible; occipital flange present; genal carina meets occipital

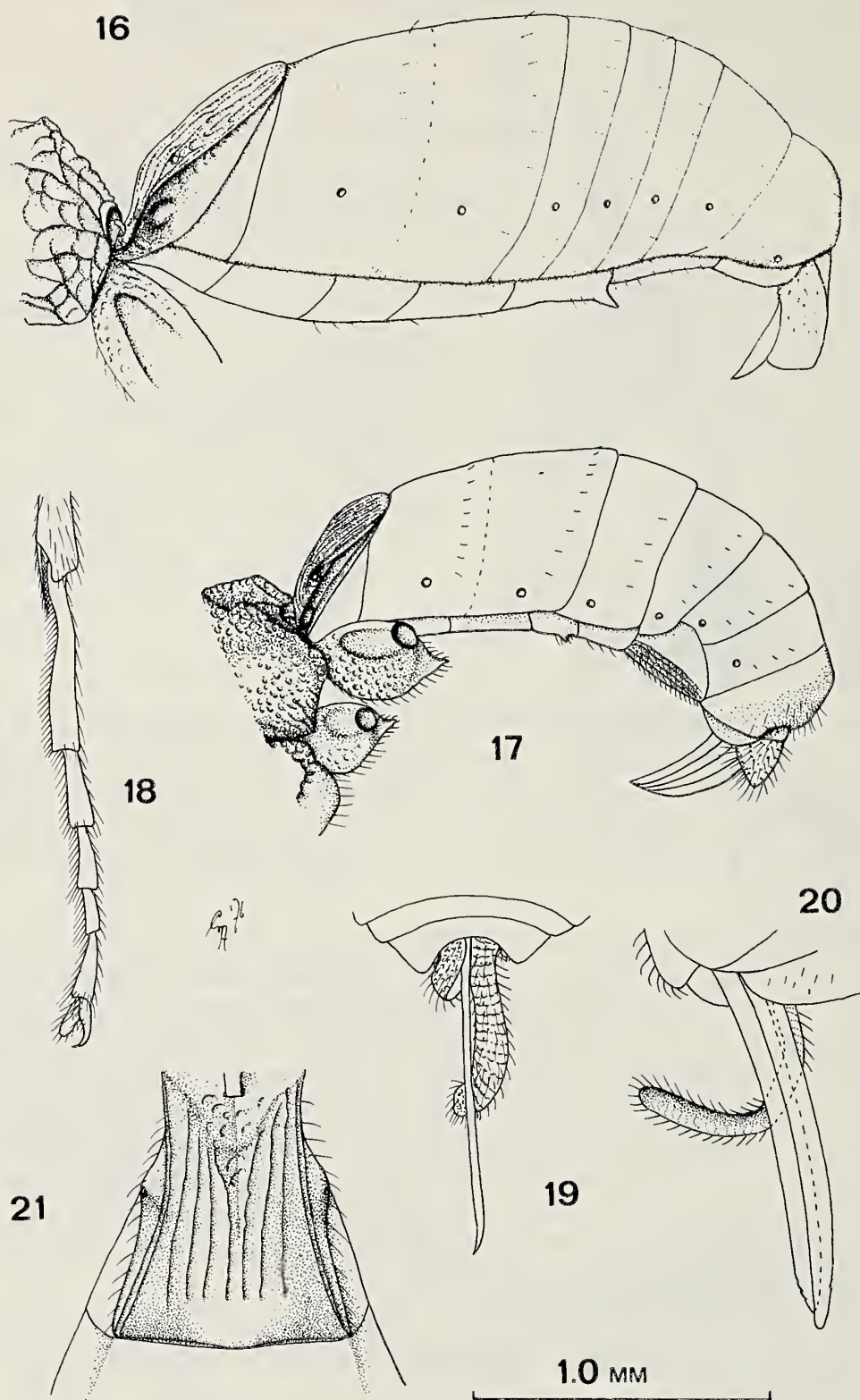


Fig. 16—20. 16, *Ancylocentrus ater* (Nees), ♀, Netherlands, Waarder, 27-30.VII.1974; metasoma lateral aspect. 17, *Allurus muricatus* (Haliday), ♀, Netherlands, Meyendel, 11-18.VII.1974; metasoma, middle and hind coxae, lateral aspect. 18—20. *Pygostolus sticticus* (Fabricius), ♀, Netherlands, Drijber, 10.VI.1974. 18, fore tarsus, antero-lateral aspect; 19, ovipositor, dorsal aspect; 20, ovipositor, lateral aspect. 21, *Centistes (Syrrhizus) delusorius* (Foerster), ♀, Netherlands, Lienden, V.1966; first metasomal tergite, dorsal aspect. Fig. 16: 2.1 times scale-line; 17—20: scale-line; 21: 2.5 times scale-line.

carina somewhat above the mandibular base; length of malar space twice basal width of mandible; mandibles distinctly twisted and strongly narrowed apicad.

Mesosoma. — Length of mesosoma 1.4 times its height; sides of pronotum smooth except for some striae; pronope present, wide and moderately deep; middle lobe of mesoscutum with

smooth triangular area laterally; zone behind prepectal carina smooth; epicnemial suture smooth, except for some shallow punctures dorsally; precoxal suture smooth, except for some short and indistinct crenulae (but medially distinctly crenulate in paratype from Wijster); pleural suture narrow, crenulate; episternal scrobe rather small (fig. 1); metapleura smooth dorsally, rugose ventrally; notauli deep and superficially crenulate, slightly widening apicad; mesoscutal lobes convex, shortly setose (especially the middle lobe), its surface superficially pimply because of the setae; scutellar suture wide and rather long, with one longitudinal carina and some indistinct rugae; scutellum smooth, antero-laterally with a short stria; side of scutellum almost smooth except for some striae; dorsal surface of propodeum rugose-reticulate, with both lateral carinae and a transverse posterior carina distinctly developed; posterior surface of propodeum almost smooth except for both lateral carinae and some superficial rugae, rather concave; propodeal spiracle small, somewhat protruding.

Wings. — Metacarp ends near apex of radial cell; r 2 evenly curved; $d 1 : d 2 = 4 : 13$; nervulus and nervellus medium-sized; first brachial cell open posteriorly; apical fringe short.

Legs. — Coxa and femur of hind leg almost smooth; hind tibia pimply; tarsal claws rather robust with its base wide and setose and its apex short and slender, simple; length of femur, tibia and basitarsus of hind leg 5.0, 9.0 and 4.3 times their width, respectively; hind tibial spur about half as long as its basitarsus.

Metasoma. — Length of first tergite 1.5 times its apical width (as in both paratypes from Wijster and Livingston, but 1.6 times in paratype from Palmer), its surface with distinctly developed longitudinal striae (fig. 5), moderately convex, spiracle flat, dorsal carinae reaching the apex of the tergite, glymma very wide anteriorly, laterope and dorsope round; length of ovipositor sheath 0.13 times fore wing (as in paratype from Livingston, 0.12 times in paratypes from Wijster and Palmer); metasoma virtually bare dorsally, with some scarcely visible setae; second tergite with sharp lateral fold.

Colour. — Brown; head (but vertex brownish), scapus, tegulae, pronotum ventrally, prosternum, legs and metasoma ventrally, yellowish; pterostigma, light brown; palpi, whitish.

Holotype in the Canadian National Collection, Ottawa: "King Salmon, Naknek R., Alaska, 3.VIII.1952, J. B. Hartley", "*Neoblacus* n. sp. Det. W. R. M. Mason 58". Paratypes, 3 ♀♀: "Nederland, Wijster (Drenthe), opposite Biol. Stat., 13-26.VII.1973, C. van Achterberg" (author's collection); "Livingston Co., Mich., 7-25-43, R. R. Dreisbach", "G. Res.", "*Neoblacus* n.sp., Det. W. R. M. Mason 58" (author's collection); "Alaska, Palmer, VII.13.1964, K. Sommerman", "9:20-9: 35 PM, 64-30 Teep trap" (U.S. National Museum, Washington).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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LITERATURE

Achterberg, C. van, 1976. A revision of the tribus Blacini (Hym., Braconidae, Helconinae). *Tijdsch. Ent.* 118 (7): 159—322, fig. 1—476.

EUMORPHA ANCHEMOLA (CRAMER) (LEPIDOPTERA: SPHINGIDAE) GEÏMPORTEERD IN NEDERLAND. Enige tijd geleden overhandigde de heer B. J. Lempke mij een SpHINGIDE die dit jaar gevonden was op een schip in de Rotterdamse haven. Na determinatie bleek dit *Eumorpha anchemola* te zijn, een soort die verspreid is van noordelijk Mexico tot in Argentinië.

Voor zover mij bekend is voor ons land slechts éénmaal eerder een geïmporteerde SpHINGIDE-soort vermeld. Dit was *Theretra japonica* Orza uit China (zie Asselbergs, J. E. F., *Ent. Ber., Amst.* 28: 162, 1968).

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