

## Notes on Aculeate Hymenoptera described in the period 1758-1810

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Part IV

### F. A POMPILID ORIGINALLY DESCRIBED IN THE GENUS ICHNEUMON.

*Ichneumon bifasciatus* Geoffroy, in Fourcroy, 1785, p. 405 = "Ichneumon noir à deux bandes sur les ailes", Geoffroy, 1762 = *Sphex bifasciatus* Fabricius, 1793, p. 212, no. 58.

Apparently it has been overlooked that FABRICIUS (1793), in his description of *Sphex bifasciata*, refers to "Ichneumon niger alis fascia duplici transversa nigra. Geoff. Ins. 2. 337. 37." This species was named *Ichneumon bifasciatus* by Geoffroy in 1785, and the name used by FABRICIUS is perhaps only a new combination, not that of a new species. FABRICIUS wrote "Habitat in agro Parisino Dom. Bosc." and may have received from BOSCH authentic material under the name *bifasciatus*.

However this is, *Sphex bifasciatus* Fabricius, if regarded as a new species, is a primary homonym of the older *Sphex bifasciatus* O. F. Müller, 1776, and therefore in any case invalid. On the other hand *Ichneumon bifasciatus* Geoffroy, 1785, which is an objective synonym of GEOFFROY's *Ichneumon* no. 37, is an available name. In DALLA TORRE's catalogue, vol. 3, p. 861, it is listed as an unidentified Ichneumonid, but this author seems not to have noticed that FABRICIUS identified GEOFFROY's *Ichneumon* no. 37 as a species of *Sphex* in 1793 and transferred it to *Pompilus* in 1798. If we accept that FABRICIUS correctly identified *Ichneumon* no. 37 of GEOFFROY, thereby acknowledging the probability that he saw material (perhaps authentic) from the type locality, *Ichneumon bifasciatus* Geoffroy, which is the same species, is a Pompilid of the genus *Dipogon* Fox (*Deuteragenia* Susteria), and must bear the name *Dipogon bifasciatus* (Geoffroy), 1785.

At this moment I am unable to establish the identity of this species with complete certainty. BERLAND (1925, p. 226) wrote: "*A* [genia] *bifasciata* F. — *A. hircana* Dahlbom, 1829 et auteurs; non *bifasciata* Dahlbom, Dalla Torre, etc.", adding in a footnote: "C'est cette espèce que les auteurs depuis longtemps appellent *A. hircana*, pour avoir méconnu le type de Fabricius. Tout ce qui a été dit au sujet de *hircana* s'applique donc à *bifasciata*, tant au point de vue systématique que éthologique". HAUPT (1926) distinguished *Deuteragenia bifasciata* Fabr., 1793, from *D. hircana* Fabr., 1798. WAHIS (1955) lists *Pompilus bifasciatus* van der Linden, 1827, in the synonymy of *Dipogon hircanus* Fabr., and probably has accepted that the species described under this name by VAN DER LINDEN is the same as *Sphex bifasciatus* Fabr., 1793.

G. ON TWO WASPS DESCRIBED BY FABRICIUS AS *VESPA CONICA*.

*Vespa conica* Fabricius, 1775, p. 372.

"V(espa) nigra, thorace antice ferrugineo, abdomine conico, flavo: segmento secundo et sexto basi nigris. — Habitat in America.

Antennae nigrae, primo articulo subtus flavo. Caput nigrum, labio flavo. Thorax niger, antice scutelloque ferrugineis. Abdomen petiolatum, petiolo nigro; secundum segmentum maximum, basi nigrum, apice flavum: reliqua flava, excepto sexto basi atro. Pedes ferruginei."

In 1781, FABRICIUS (p. 469, no. 65) repeated part of this description, with a reference to the original, and added: "Habitat in America meridionali, in Italia. D. Allioni."

I have been unable to find any further references to this species in FABRICIUS's later works. In the "Mantissa Insectorum" (1787) which contains only short diagnoses of one or two lines of the previously described species, we find on p. 293, under *Vespa conica* (no. 69) the description of an entirely different wasp:

"V(espa) ferruginea nigro maculata, abdominis segmento secundo fascia atra.

Habitat in China.

Nimis affinis *V. petiolatae* attamen distincta videtur. Corpus totum ferrugineum maculis aliquot nigris. Petiolus elongatus, ferrugineus basi apiceque parum nigricans."

The further fate of these two species, *V. conica* F., 1775, and *V. conica* F., 1787, is remarkable. GMELIN (1790) appears to have been the only author who noticed the difference between the two diagnoses. He listed *V. conica* F. with a reference to Fabr. 1781, and created the name *conoidea* for FABRICIUS's second species (*V. conoidea* Gmel., p. 2753, no. 52). OLIVIER (1791), FABRICIUS (1793, 1804), DE SAUSSURE (1852), SMITH (1857), and BINGHAM (1897) all refer to *Vespa conica* F., 1787, and ignore the existence of the earlier species.

DALLA TORRE's treatment of the case in his "Catalogus Hymenopterorum", vol. 9 (1894) is worth special attention. *Vespa conica* Fabr. 1775 is placed at the head of the series of references under "*Eumenes conica*", p. 22, and the usual absence of the habitat of the species under the various references effectively masks the fact that the first two citations refer to an American or European species, and not to the wasp which lives in "As.: India, China, Philippines." *Vespa conoidea* Gmel. is not overlooked by this author, but is listed as a doubtful species of *Vespa* on p. 141, where the name *conoidea* is ascribed to FABRICIUS, 1787!

My incomplete knowledge of the American Eumenidae does not permit me to conclude from the diagnose whether *V. conica* Fabr. 1775 is indeed an American species, or whether it was based on an incorrectly labelled specimen of a European *Eumenes*. For the moment *V. conica* F., 1775, may stand as a doubtful species in the genus *Eumenes*, and the Asiatic *Eumenes conicus* (Fabr., 1787) must bear the name *Eumenes conoideus* (Gmel., 1790).

## H. NEW NAMES OF SPHEX AND VESPA SPECIES IN W. TURTON'S EDITION OF THE "SYSTEMA NATURAE", 1802.

TURTON's work has been overlooked by DALLA TORRE. The Hymenoptera cover the pages 408—580 of vol. III; the author lists the previously described

species, with short diagnoses similar to those in GMELIN's edition of the same work, but he does not describe any new species. However, some new names are proposed in connection with cases of homonymy, created by the lumping together of various previously described genera. For example, all species placed by FABRICIUS in the genera *Mellinus*, *Philanthus*, *Crabro*, *Bembex*, and *Masaris*, are recorded here under the generic name *Vespa*.

According to the Index Animalium of SHERBORN, TURTON's work contains 7 new specific names in *Sphex*, and 15 in *Vespa*, but these numbers have proved to be incorrect. This is hardly astonishing, for the new names are not indicated as such, and literature references are generally lacking. Only by careful comparison of TURTON's diagnoses with those of his predecessors, especially GMELIN and FABRICIUS, have I been able to determine the status of the names used in this work. In a few cases it is hard to say whether a name has been misspelt or emended.

The new names, including some possible emendations, are as follows:

*Sphex argentea* Turton, 1802, p. 485. — Lapsus or emendation for *Sphex argentata* Fabr. 1787, an oriental species of *Sphex* L.

*Sphex bicolorata* Turton, 1802, p. 493. — Objective synonym of *Sphex bicolor* Fabr., 1775, an Australian Pompilid.

*Sphex ephippica* Turton, 1802, p. 495. — Lapsus or emendation for *Sphex ephippia* Linn., 1767, a Swedish species of *Sphex* L.

*Sphex nigrita* Turton, 1802, p. 484. — Lapsus or emendation for *Sphex (Evania) nigrata* Gmelin, 1790, p. 2723, no. 21, an unidentified European Evaniid.

*Sphex tricolorata* Turton, 1802, p. 492. — Objective synonym of *Sphex tricolor* Fabr., 1793, p. 215, no. 71, not *Sphex tricolor* Schrank, 1781. The correct name of FABRICIUS's species, which is the type of the genus *Tachytes* Panzer (see PATE, 1937, p. 64), is *Tachytes tricolorata* (Turton). This name replaces *Tachytes tingitanus* Pate, 1937, proposed by PATE upon the discovery that *Sphex tricolor* Fabr. is an invalid homonym (l.c., p. 64).

*Vespa melanops* Turton, 1802, p. 534. — Objective synonym of *Vespa (Crabro) melanostoma* Gmelin 1790, p. 2766, no. 137, an unidentified species. The reason for the change of name is not clear.

*Vespa quinquelineata* Turton, 1802, p. 529. — TURTON proposed this name for *Crabro quinquecinctus* Fabr., 1787, p. 295, no. 11, which upon being transferred to the genus *Vespa* became a secondary homonym of *Vespa quinquecincta* Fabr. 1787, p. 288, no. 24 (= *Rygbium quinquecinctum* (Fabr.), a Chinese species). He overlooked, however, that GMELIN had already renamed *Crabro quinquecinctus* Fabr. for the same reason, calling it *Vespa (Crabro) cingulata* (see GMELIN, 1790, p. 2762, no. 108). Both replacement names may now be regarded as invalid, junior, objective synonyms of *Crabro quinquecinctus* Fabr., which was described from Kiel and which itself is a subjective synonym of *Cerceris arenaria* (Linn.). It should be noted that DALLA TORRE (vol. VIII, p. 451) erroneously cited FABRICIUS's species as " ? *Crabro cingulatus* Fabricius, Mant. Insect. I. 1787, p. 295 n. 11."

*Vespa trilineata* Turton, 1802, p. 527. — This name was proposed for

*Mellinus tricinctus* Fabr., 1793, p. 287, no. 5 (from Italy), which upon being transferred to the genus *Vespa* became a secondary homonym of *Vespa tricincta* Fabr., 1775, p. 363, a junior synonym of the American Sphecid *Sphecius speciosus* (Drury). *Mellinus tricinctus* Fabr. is a synonym of *Nysson spinosus* (Forster), 1771 (see DAHLBOM, 1843-5, Hym. Europ., p. XXIII).

The following species, recorded as new by SHERBORN, are actually only new combinations. TURTON's names are given here each with a reference to the original description.

*Sphex minuta* Turton, 1802, p. 484 = *Evania minuta* Fabr., 1793, p. 194 (Gallia).  
*Sphex sessilis* Turton, 1802, p. 484 = *Evania sessilis* Fabr., 1793, p. 194 (Gallia).  
*Vespa albilabris* Turton, 1802, p. 533 = *Crabro albilabris* Fabr., 1793, p. 302 (Halae Saxonum).

*Vespa apiformis* Turton, 1802, p. 536 = *Masaris apiformis* Fabr., 1793, p. 284 (Italia).  
*Vespa aurita* Turton, 1802, p. 528 = *Philanthus auritus* Fabr., 1794, p. 459 (Italia).  
*Vespa laeta* Turton, 1802, p. 529 = *Philanthus laetus* Fabr., 1793, p. 291 (Hispania).  
*Vespa lugubris* Turton, 1802, p. 533 = *Crabro lugubris* Fabr., 1793, p. 302 (Halae Saxonum).

*Vespa lunata* Turton, 1802, p. 537 = *Bembex lunata* Fabr., 1793, p. 249 (Tranquebar).  
*Vespa mucronata* Turton, 1802, p. 532 = *Crabro mucronatus* Fabr., 1793, p. 300 (Germania).

*Vespa ornata* Turton, 1802, p. 529 = *Philanthus ornatus* Fabr., 1793, p. 290 (Germania).  
*Vespa peltata* Turton, 1802, p. 531 = *Crabro peltatus* Fabr., 1793, p. 297 (Europa).  
*Vespa quadrimaculata* Turton, 1802, p. 530 = *Crabro quadrimaculatus* Fabr., 1793, p. 294 (Dania).

*Vespa quinquemaculata* Turton, 1802, p. 529 = *Philanthus quinquemaculatus* Fabr., 1793, p. 292 (Dania).

*Vespa trispinosa* Turton, 1802, p. 533 = *Apis trispinosa* Fabr., 1787, p. 303, no. 60 = *Crabro trispinosus* Fabr., 1793, p. 301 (Halae Saxonum).

*Vespa vespiformis* Turton, 1802, p. 536 = *Masaris vespiformis* Fabr., 1793, p. 283 (Barbaria).

Finally it may be mentioned that the following names are evidently misspelt in TURTON's work: *Vespa fossoira*, p. 530 = *Vespa fossoria* (L.) Gmel.; *Vespa argurostoma*, p. 534 = *Vespa argyrostoma* Gmelin; *Vespa macensis*, p. 515 = *Vespa macaensis* Fabr.

#### Literature

(See also parts I—III, *Ent. Ber.* 19: 65, 127 and 211).

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