

First records of the Neotropic genus *Dilopharius* Townes (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae: Ichneumoninae) in Florida

Dilopharius Townes (1966) ranges from the southern United States to Argentina. Its only described species is *D. otomitus* (Cresson 1868), previously known from Mexico and south Texas, but now recorded for the first time from Florida.

This is a medium sized ichneumonid (fore wing 5-10 mm long) recognizable as follows: mandible broad, lower tooth a little shorter than upper; occipital carina joins base of mandible; scutellum nearly flat, with a strong, percurrent lateral carina; propodeum with broadly triangular apico-lateral crests; female gaster short and broad; second tergite with coarse punctures, thyridia broad, space between them not much greater than width of 1 thyridium; black with a white band on flagellum and profuse white marks on head and mesosoma, female gaster orange red, often with black and white markings on tergites 1-3, in male extensively black and white on tergites 1-4.

Material Examined. 29 females, 12 males. FLORIDA. Alachua Co., Gainesville; Clay Co. Goldhead Branch St. Pk.; Nassau Co., Fort Clinch St. Pk.; Suwannee Co., Suwannee River St. Pk. In Florida State Collection of Arthropods (FSCA).

Variation. Females from Mexico and Texas have the gaster almost uniformly fulvo-ferruginous; in Florida females tergites 1-3 are white on base and apex and in between are more or less extensively blackish with limited red staining.

Habitat. This species occurs in well shaded, mature hardwood forest. Only 1 specimen was taken by hand net; the other 40 were caught in Malaise Traps.

Phaenology. Like most Florida ichneumonids, *D. otomitus* peaks in spring, with 12 records in III; 5 in

IV; 9 in V; 5 in VI; 5 in VII; 1 in IX; 1 in X; and 3 in XII.

Biogeography. This conspicuous species was unknown in Florida until 1996, although Heinrich collected for years in the state (1977). Are Florida populations disjunct (*cf.* the colubrid snake genus *Drymarchon*)? Does the species occur on the Gulf Coast between Florida and Texas? Further collecting, especially with Malaise traps, is needed to answer these questions.

Acknowledgments

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Literature cited

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