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## Research article

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# First record of the genus *Genaemirum* (Hymenoptera, Ichneumonidae, Ichneumoninae) from West Africa, with the description of a new species from Guinea

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**Abstract.** A new species of the Afrotropical genus *Genaemirum* Heinrich, 1936 is described from a single female specimen from Guinea and compared to the closest species, *G. rhinoceros* Heinrich, 1967. *Genaemirum filipazzii* sp. nov. also provides the first record of the genus for West Africa. An updated key to the species is included.

**Keywords.** Ichneumonidae, Ichneumoninae, *Genaemirum*, Guinea, new species, new record.

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## Introduction

*Genaemirum* Heinrich, 1936 is an endemic Afrotropical genus with eight recognized species up to now (Rouse *et al.* 2016), and with a scattered distribution between Southern and Eastern Africa (Table 1). The suprageneric placement of *Gemaemirum* is far from clear. Heinrich (1967) placed the genus within the tribe Heresiarchini (= Protichneumonini *sensu* Heinrich) and the newly described subtribe Apatetorina, but according to the cladistic analysis of Sime & Wahl (2002), Heresiarchini are paraphyletic. Despite this recent finding, Tereshkin (2009) maintained the traditional concept of Heresiarchini and therefore the position of *Genaemirum*. In a later paper, Rouse *et al.* (2016) did not speculate about the position of the genus, but agreed upon the fact that “the gradual curve of the propodeum in profile is typical of the tribe Heresiarchini”.

*Genaemirum* can be distinguished from the other genera by the combination of the following characters: the flattened and uncarinate scutellum; the long and evenly curved propodeum with area superomedia and

area basalis fused into a long and smooth mid-longitudinal surface; highly specialized head structures, such as appendages of the apex of the gena and / or horn-like projections or carinae on the frons, behind the antennal sockets (Heinrich 1936, 1967; Rouse *et al.* 2016).

The biology of the genus is poorly known. According to Rouse *et al.* (2016), species of *Genaemirum* are likely to be idiobiont parasitoids of pupae of Lepidoptera, as suggested by both indirect observations (such as an oxygyous metasoma and the biology of the species belonging to many heresiarchines, such as *Coelichneumon* Thomson, 1893), and direct rearing of *G. phagocossorum* (Rouse, Broad & van Noort, 2016), which has been reported to emerge from logs of *Eucalyptus nitens* (H. Deane & Maiden) (Myrtales: Myrtaceae) heavily infested by *Coryphodema tristis* (Drury, 1782) (Lepidoptera: Cossidae). The particular appendages and modifications of the head are not clearly understood. Heinrich (1967) speculated they could be an adaptation either to access the host or emerge from a particular substrate. As they are apparently restricted to females, Rouse *et al.* (2016) furthermore suggested they could be involved in host foraging, for example by facilitating the progression of the female within the frass-filled feeding tunnels of the host caterpillars.

The present publication describes a new species of *Genaemirum* collected from Guinea, expanding the distribution of the genus to the Western Africa. An updated key to the species of *Genaemirum* is also provided.

## Material and methods

### Photographs

A dissecting stereo microscope (OPTIKA SZM-2) was used for observation and study. Photographs were taken with a Canon Eos 600D, lens Canon MP-E 65 mm f/2.8 1-5 × Macro and Sigma 105 mm f/2.8 Macro DG OS HSM, using Combine ZP for the stacking (Hadley 2008).

### Mapmaking

The records are in decimal degree (datum WGS84) and distribution maps were produced using QGIS 2.14.22 with shape files produced by Natural Earth (<http://www.naturalearthdata.com>) and Map Library (<http://www.maplibrary.org>).

### Depositories and abbreviations

NHMD = Statens Naturhistoriske Museum, University of Copenhagen, Denmark (Lars Vilhelmsen)  
POL = Post-ocellar line index  
OOL = Oculo-ocellar line index  
ZSMC = Zoologische Staatssammlung, Munich, Germany (Stefan Schmidt)

### Comparative specimen

The holotype of the new species was compared with the female holotype of *Genaemirum rhinoceros* Heinrich, 1967 (ZSMC: Type-No: ZSM-HYM-00254) collected in Uganda. For major details on the labels refer to Rouse *et al.* (2016).

## Results

### *Taxonomy*

Class Hexapoda Blainville, 1816  
Order Hymenoptera Linnaeus, 1758  
Superfamily Ichneumonoidea Latreille, 1802  
Family Ichneumonidae Latreille, 1802  
Subfamily Ichneumoninae Latreille, 1802  
Tribe Heresiarchini Ashmead, 1900  
Genus *Genaemirum* Heinrich, 1936

*Genaemirum filipazzii* sp. nov.

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Figs 1–3, 6, 8, 10–14

### Diagnosis

Body length 14.5 mm. Head mostly reddish-brown with frons, vertex and occiput black; mesosoma black with isolated reddish-brown markings; metasoma and legs reddish brown but hind coxa partly black; wings hyaline; antenna with 33 flagellomeres; lower gena not produced laterally; clypeus transverse and with the apical margin slightly truncate in the middle; lower frons smooth and short, separated from coarsely rugose upper frons by a transverse M-shaped carina; mesosoma densely to sparsely punctate; metasoma densely punctate on tergites 1–4, sparsely punctate on the remaining tergites.

### Etymology

The species is dedicated by the first author (DDP) to his friend, Luca Filipazzi (Milano, Italy) and to his courageous battle, always with a smile on his face, against Duchenne muscular dystrophy. As a modest thanksgiving for all these years of friendship and inspiration, his name is now set among Nature's wonders, as a little piece of eternity.

### Material examined

#### Holotype

GUINEA: ♀, “N’Zérékoré [Nzérékoré] / Fr. Guinea / 24/4 1950 / Sv. Herold Olsen” (NHMD). The holotype is in good condition with left wings detached and glued on a label pinned below the specimen, but the apical flagellomeres of the right antenna are missing.

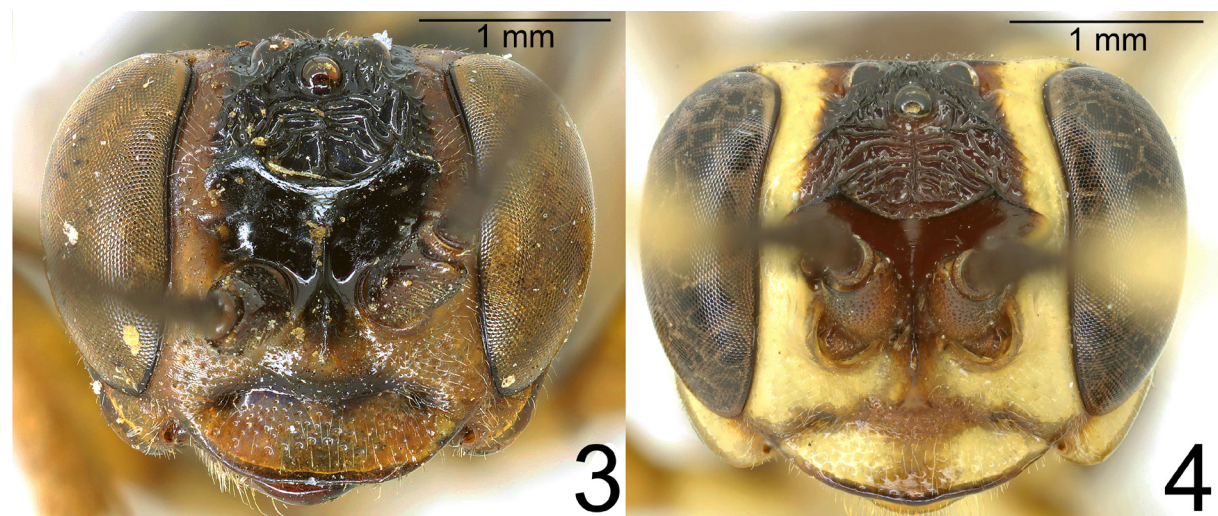
### Description

#### Female

HEAD. Mandible rather stout, punctate and setose, slightly concave on outer aspect, teeth blunt with upper tooth about  $2.0 \times$  lower tooth; malar space  $0.2 \times$  mandible basal width; occipital carina meeting hypostomal carina distant from mandible base by  $0.8 \times$  basal width of mandible; hypostomal carina raised, lamelliform; clypeus  $3.2 \times$  as wide as medially high, flat, differentiated from face by suture, punctate with apical margin smoother and slightly truncate in middle; face  $4.6 \times$  wider than high, matt and densely punctate, with a mid-longitudinal, horn-like, projecting lamella; lower frons smooth and short, separated from upper frons by a transverse M-shaped carina; upper frons and stemmaticum with a differentiated coarsely rugose surface; vertex very faintly coriaceous with inconspicuous dense punctures near occipital carina; temple about as wide as eye, roundly narrowed behind eyes; occipital carina sharp, ventrally lamellate; ocellar triangle wider than long, ocelli rather small, POL 1.1, OOL 1.4; antenna stout, widened medially, thinner apically, with 33 flagellomeres, first flagellomere  $1.8 \times$  as long



**Figs 1–2.** *Genaemirum filipazzii* sp. nov., holotype, ♀, habitus (NHMD). 1. Dorsal view. 2. Lateral view.



**Fig. 3–4.** Frontal view of the face. 3. *Genaemirum filipazzii* sp. nov., holotype, ♀ (NHMD). 4. *Genaemirum rhinoceros* Heinrich, 1967, holotype, ♀ (ZSMC)..



**Figs 5–6.** Lateral view of the first tergite. **5.** *Genaemirum rhinoceros* Heinrich, 1967. **6.** *Genaemirum filipazzii* sp. nov.

as apically wide, second  $1.3 \times$  as long as wide, then widening towards middle with 8<sup>th</sup> flagellomere  $1.0 \times$  as long as wide.

**MESOSOMA.** Pronotum striate on ventral margin, sparsely punctate centrally, otherwise finely and densely punctate; pronotal collar punctate to puncto-striate, epomia strong; mesopleuron densely punctate, punctures finer on epicnemium and subtegular ridge, speculum smooth and shining, mesopleural groove smooth above speculum, epicnemial carina nearly reaching pronotal margin below expanded subtegular ridge, dorsally fading into punctures; metapleuron densely punctate to nearly smooth ventrally; mesoscutum evenly rounded, finely and densely punctate laterally, sparsely punctate centrally, notaulus distinct to anterior third, scuto-scutellar groove quite smooth; scutellum finely and more sparsely punctate, without lateral carina, quite flat in profile; propodeum typical of genus, gently and evenly rounded in profile with median areas fused, carination distinct but weak, densely punctate with punctuation obsolescent in mid-basal area.

**LEGS.** Fore and mid tibiae with short and rather dense bristles along anterior faces, bristle sockets large and cupular.

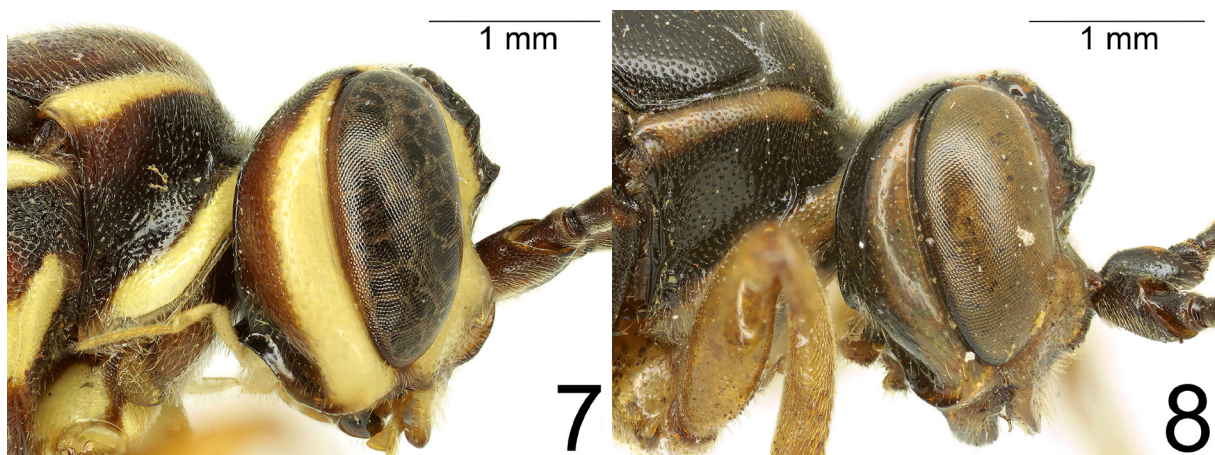
**WINGS.** Areolet closed and rhomboidal.

**METASOMA.** Tergite 1 densely punctate, rather short and strongly widened from base to spiracle, lateral and submedian dorsal carinae strong; tergites 2–4 punctate and coriaceous, posteriorly shining, with traces of striation basally, gastrocoelus deep, thyridia separated by  $2.1 \times$  their own width; following tergites finely and sparsely punctate, tergites 6–7 with strong setae; ovipositor sheath slightly protruding beyond metasomal apex.

**COLOUR.** Antennae black with a whitish median ring; head mostly reddish-brown with frons, vertex and occiput black; mesosoma black with reddish-brown markings on: dorsal and ventral margins of pronotum, subtegular ridge, centre of mesoscutum, mid-longitudinal band on mesopleuron, scutellum, postero-ventral part of metapleuron, centre of metanotum and posterior corners of propodeum; metasoma uniformly reddish-brown, petiole dorsally darker; legs reddish-brown but hind coxa largely black marked; wings barely infumate, venation testaceous to black.

#### Male

Unknown.



**Figs 7–8.** Lateral view of the head. 7. *Genaemirum rhinoceros* Heinrich, 1967. 8. *Genaemirum filipazzii* sp. nov.



**Figs 9–10.** Lateral view of mesopleuron. **9.** *Genaemirum rhinoceros* Heinrich, 1967. **10.** *Genaemirum filipazzii* sp. nov.

### Host

Unknown.

### Distribution

Guinea.

### Addendum to the key to *Genaemirum* (after Rouse et al. 2016)

7. Frons with forked, horn-like projecting carina above antennal scrobes [(A)]; second tergite medially punctate [(B)] ..... 7'  
– Frons with broad to acute cordate lamella above antennal scrobes [(a)]; second tergite medially longitudinally strigose (metasoma lacking in ♀ allotype of *G. varianum* (Tosquinet, 1896), but ♂ holotype tergite is longitudinally strigose) [(b)] ..... 8
- 7'. Apical margin of clypeus evenly rounded (Fig. 4); tergite 1 puncto-striate laterally (Fig. 5); ventral part of occipital carina slightly sinuate and not directed inward in lateral view (Fig. 7); head and mesosoma bright red interspersed with numerous large yellow markings (Figs 4, 7, 9); metasoma and legs yellowish-orange with hind coxae largely white (Figs 5, 9); Uganda .....  
..... *G. rhinoceros* Heinrich, 1967  
– Apical margin of clypeus slightly truncate in the middle (Fig. 3); tergite 1 punctate laterally (Fig. 6); ventral part of occipital carina strongly sinuate and directed inward in lateral view (Fig. 8); head and mesosoma black interspersed with numerous large reddish-brown markings (Figs 1–3, 8, 10–11); metasoma and legs reddish-brown with hind coxa largely black (Figs 6, 12, 14); Guinea .....  
..... *G. filipazzii* Dal Pos & Rouse sp. nov.

### Discussion

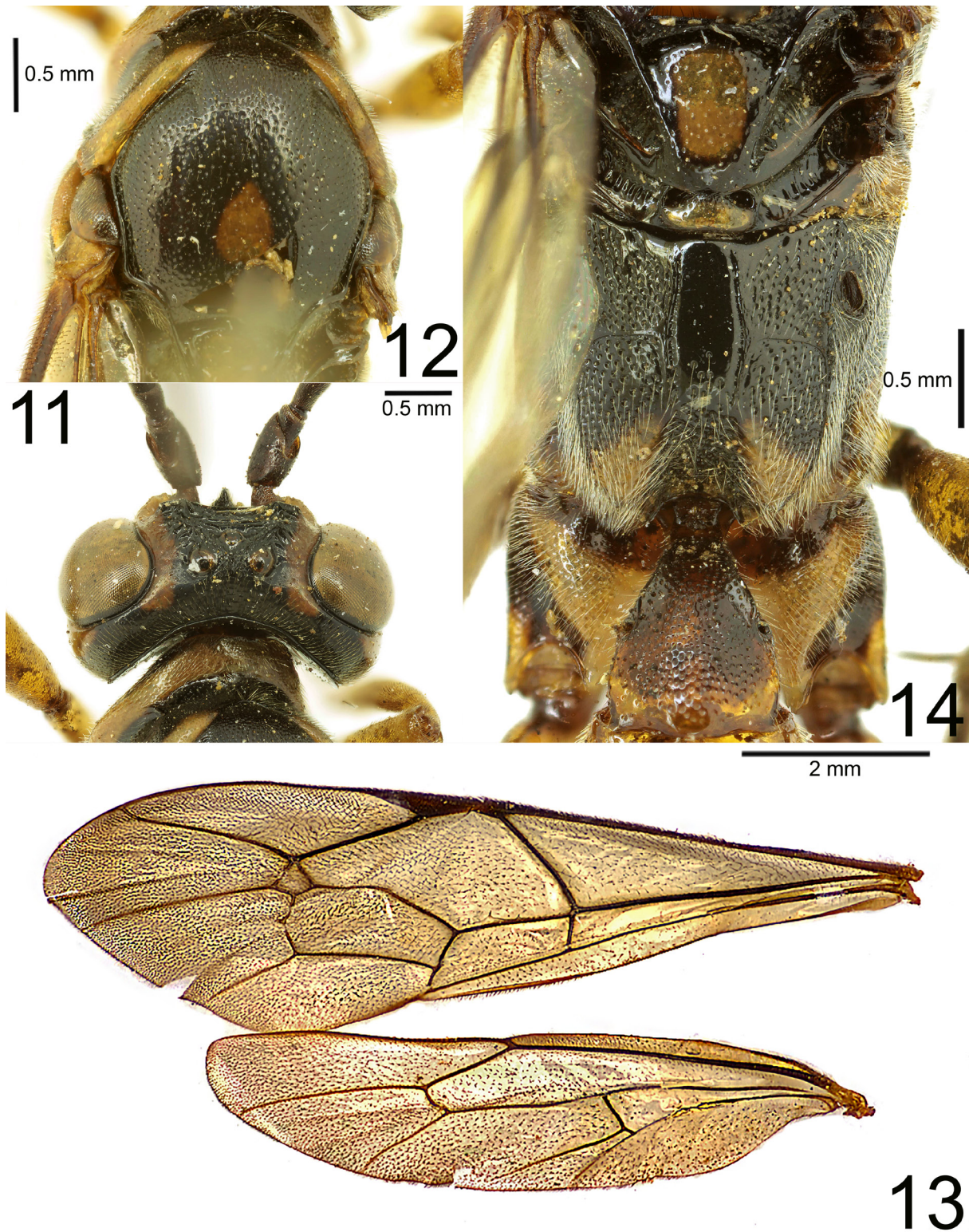
The M-shaped carina on the frons easily separates the two closely related species, *G. rhinoceros* and *G. filipazzii* sp. nov., from the other species. The newly described species can be differentiated from *G. rhinoceros* by the slightly truncate apical margin of the clypeus (evenly rounded in *G. rhinoceros*) and the punctuation on the lateral part of tergite 1 (puncto-striate in *G. rhinoceros*). The overall colouration of the two species is different, although it may have been altered by the preservation condition of the specimens: *G. rhinoceros* is bright red with yellow markings while the holotype of *G. filipazzii* sp. nov. is black interspersed with reddish-brown markings. Several other minor differential characters are also worth mentioning: the sculpture on the ventral lobe of the metapleuron (smooth and shining in *G. filipazzii* sp. nov., striate in *G. rhinoceros*), the different orientation of striation on the pronotum, and the different sculpture of the mesopleural groove (smooth in *G. filipazzii* sp. nov., punctate in *G. rhinoceros*).

The new species provides the first record of the genus for Guinea, expanding the distribution of *Genaemirum* to West Africa (Table 1, Fig. 15). The label lacks detailed collection data so we cannot provide any further biological nor ecological information.

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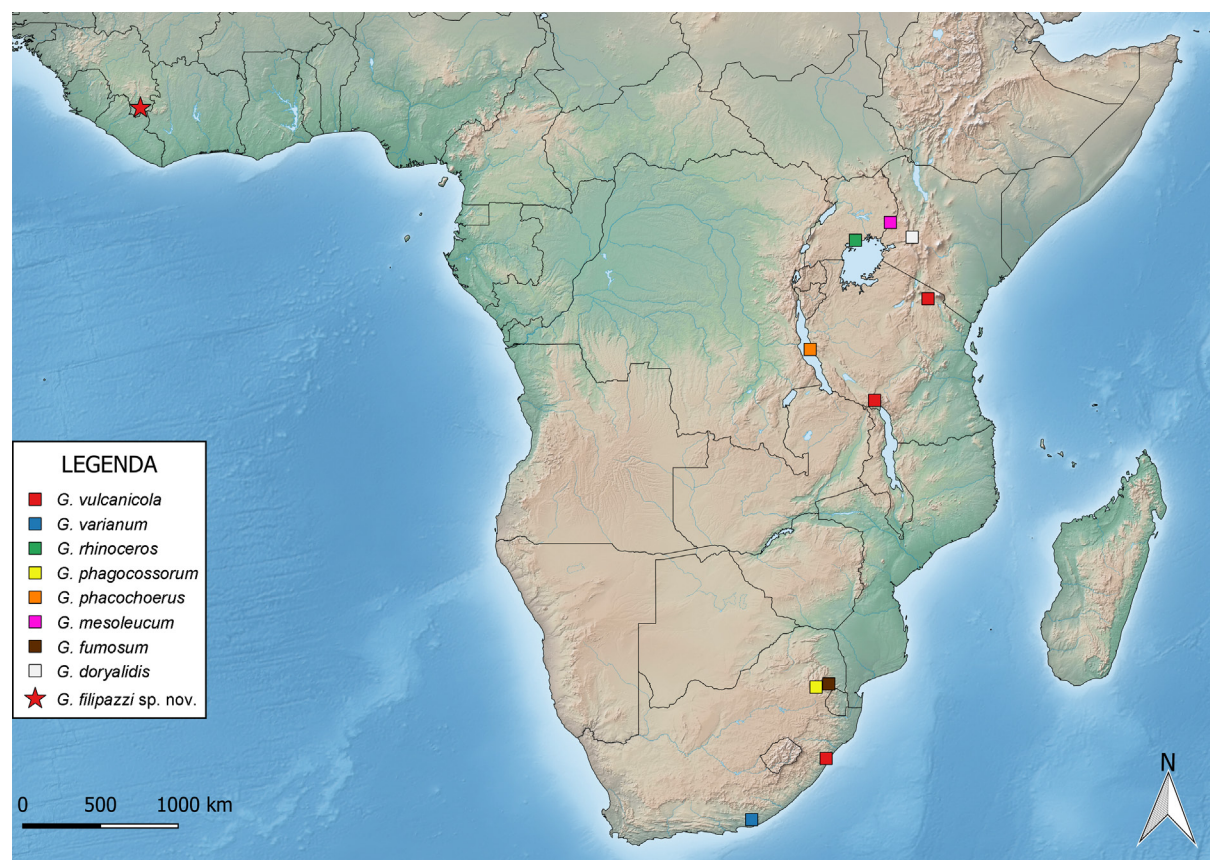




**Figs 11–14.** *Genaemirum filipazzii* sp. nov. **11.** Head, dorsal view. **12.** Mesonotum, dorsal view **13.** Fore and hind wings. **14.** Propodeum, dorsal view.

**Table 1.** Distribution of the genus *Genaemirum* (Tosquinet 1896; Heinrich 1967; Rouse *et al.* 2016).

Species	Known distribution
<i>Genaemirum phagocossorum</i> Rouse, Broad & van Noort, 2016	
<i>Genaemirum fumosum</i> Rouse, Broad & van Noort, 2016	South Africa
<i>Genaemirum varianum</i> (Tosquinet, 1896)	
<i>Genaemirum doryalidis</i> Heinrich, 1967	Kenya
<i>Genaemirum mesoleucum</i> Heinrich, 1936	
<i>Genaemirum rhinoceros</i> Heinrich, 1967	Uganda
<i>Genaemirum phacochoerus</i> Rouse, Broad & van Noort, 2016	Tanzania
<i>Genaemirum vulcanicola</i> Heinrich, 1967	South Africa, Tanzania
<i>Genaemirum filipazzii</i> sp. nov.	Guinea



**Fig. 15.** Distribution of species of *Genaemirum* Heinrich, 1936: known species (squares) and the new species (star).

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