

# A NEW RECORD OF THE GENUS *EROTOLEPSIELLA* GIRAULT (HYMENOPTERA: PTEROMALIDAE) FROM THE ORIENTAL REGION WITH DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES FROM INDIA

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## Abstract

The genus *Erotolepsiella* Girault is reported for the first time from the Oriental Region with a description of a new species viz. *E. indica* sp. nov. from India. Its affinities with the known species of the genus are discussed.

## Keywords

*Pteromalidae, Erotolepsiella indica* sp. nov., new species, new record.

## Abbreviations

F1 to F7 - Funicular segments one to seven  
OOL - Ocellocular line  
POL - Post ocellar line  
STV - Stigmal vein

MV - Marginal vein  
PMV - Postmarginal vein  
SMV - Submarginal vein  
ZSIC - Zoological Survey of India, Regional Station, Calicut

## Introduction

The genus *Erotolepsiella* was erected by Girault (1915) with the type species *Erotolepsiella bifasciata* Girault from Queensland, Australia. This is the only species so far described under this genus (Boucek, 1988). This paper reports for the first time this genus from India with a description of a new species. The genus *Erotolepsiella* Girault belongs to the subfamily Coelocybinae Boucek

*Erotolepsiella indica* sp. nov.  
(Figs. 1-3)

## Material examined

Holotype: Female, 7.v.1989, Calicut University Campus, Calicut, Kerala, Coll. T.C. Narendran and party. Collection # IR.INV.854 (ZSIC).

Paratypes: Two females, 7.v.1989, Calicut University Campus, Calicut, Kerala, Coll. T.C. Narendran and party. Collection # 6102(DST), 6103(DST) (ZSIC).

## Distribution

Malabar area (Kerala) lying between 10°15' and 12°18' N and 75°14' and 17°56' E.

## Collection method

The specimens were collected using triangular sweepnet.

## Habitat features

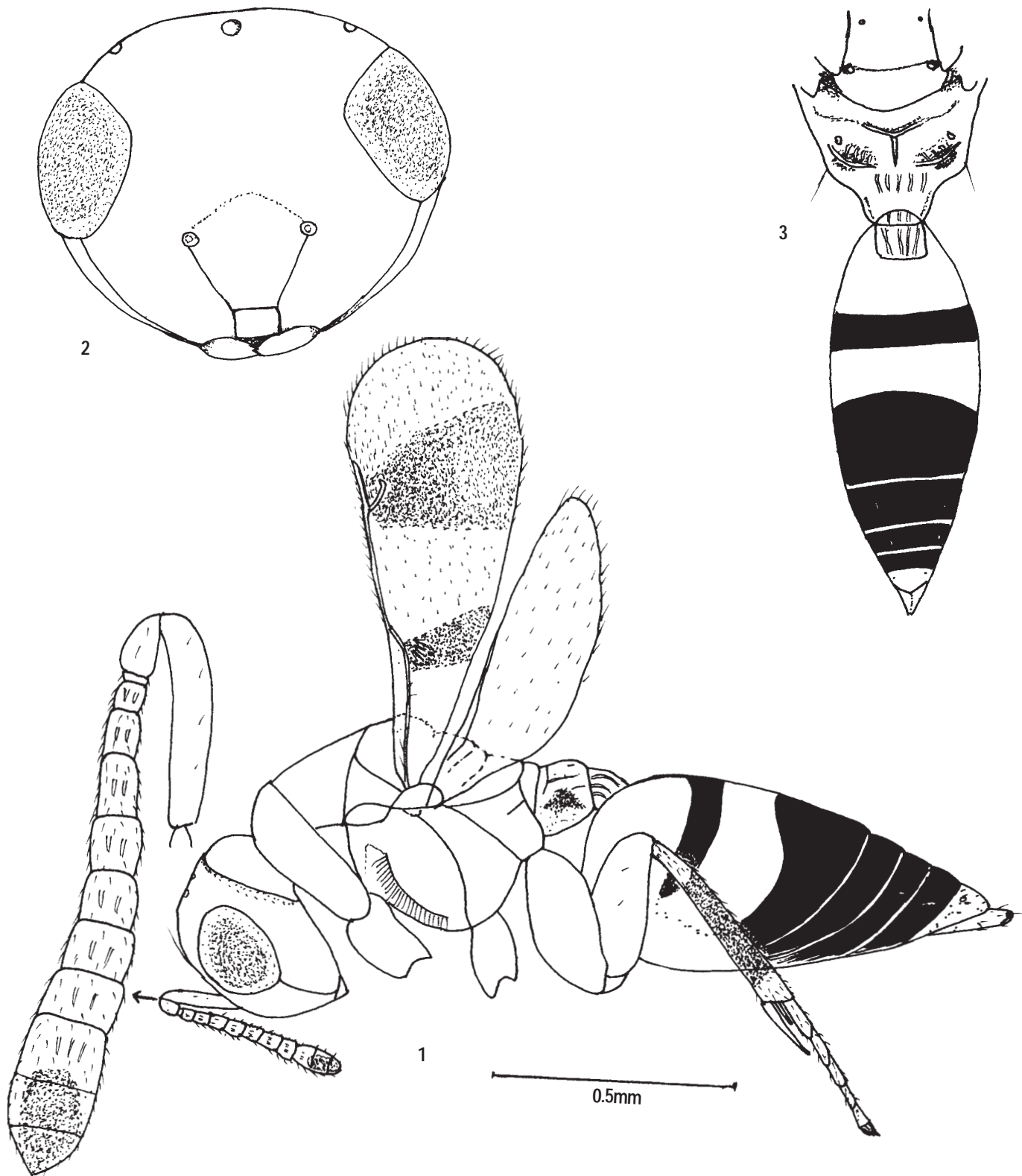
The area from which the specimens of the new species were collected was mixed crop area, mainly pastures.

## Current status of habitat

Disturbed area due to human interference.

## Diagnostic features

Female: Length 1.6-1.8 mm. Head and mesosoma brownish-yellow with eye dark brown except pale yellow ring around margin; ocelli pale yellowish-brown; black colour on region near base of hind wing, on sides of frenum, on propodeal crest; hind tibia brown with base and apex paler; gaster black with T1 and a large band on T2 pale brownish-yellow; epipygium pale brownish-yellow; ovipositor sheath pale brownish-yellow with apex black; forewing with two dark bands (Fig. 1), which are



Figures 1-3. *Erotolepsiella indica* sp. nov. (female)  
1. Body profile in part; 2. Head in front view; 3. Part of scutellum to tip of gaster in dorsal view.

darker near parastigmal and stigmal areas.

Head: Width in anterior view 1.2x its length (90:75); in dorsal view width 2.5x its median length; malar sulcus distinct. POL about 3x OOL; vertex with two pairs of bristles directed forward; vertex with sharp supraoccipital edge; frons and vertex smooth and shiny; clypeus width a little over 1.6x its length; its lower margin entire. Mandibles bidentate. Antenna inserted below level of ventral margin of eye; toruli separated from eye margin a little more than 0.7x that of distance between two toruli; scape not reaching front ocellus, a little over 0.4x eye diameter, about 3.5x length of pedicel. Relative measurements of length:width of antennal segments: scape=41:7; pedicel=12:7; F1=5:5; F2=8:7; F3=12:10; F4=10:9; F5=10:10; F6=10:12; F7=10:13; clava=30:15 with less sclerotised area containing sensillae; clava as long as length of three preceding segments combined.

Mesosoma: Pronotum transversely striate with a median transverse carina; mesoscutum and scutellum faintly reticulostriate; mostly smooth under strong light; scapula and axilla with a stronger seta directed posteriorly (setae broken off from the holotype); notauli complete; pubescence sparse; scutellum with two pairs of setae (setae broken off in holotype), posterior pair stronger and lodged on sharp elevated black points on sides of anterior margin of frenum; frenum mostly smooth and shiny. Propodeum with a transverse crest on each side of median 'T'-shaped carina (Fig. 3) containing irregular longitudinal carinulae; with a strong nucha. Forewing length 2.8x its maximum width; with two dark bands, proximal band with a tuft of thick hairs at parastigma. Proximal band not connected with distal band (Fig. 1). Relative lengths of forewing veins: SMV = 29; MV = 22; PMV = 9; STV = 6. Hind tibia with two distinct spurs, inner spur stronger and longer than outer spur, longer than hind metatarsus.

Gaster: Smooth, its length a little more than 1.36x length of mesosoma, subequal to combined length of head and mesosoma; petiole length equal to its width; in dorsal view T3 longest.

Male: Unknown

Host: Unknown

Variation: Dark brown colour of holotype is found slightly lighter in paratypes.

### Discussion

There is only one described species under the genus *Erotolepsiella* Girault, viz. *E. bifasciata* Girault, which differs from this new species in having: body mainly black with dark metallic tinge (in *indica* head and mesosoma brownish-yellow); forewing without hair tuft (in *indica* with hairtuft on proximal fascia); frenal area more coarsely sculptured than rest of the scutulum (in *indica*, frenal area mostly smooth as in rest of scutulum) and hind coxa deeply reticulate (in *indica*, hind coxa not deeply reticulate).

This new species shows some generic features of *Coelocyboides* Girault in having proximal band of fascia of forewing with hairtuft, hind coxa without deep reticulations and body without dark metallic colour.

### Acknowledgements

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### References

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