

Neolosbanus palgroveri (Girault)

ON A NEW SPECIES OF *ORASEMA* CAMERON (HYMENOPTERA: EUCHARITIDAE), WITH A KEY TO INDIAN SPECIES¹

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(With nine text-figures)

A new species, viz. *Orasema indica* from Kerala, is described. A dichotomous key to Indian species of *Orasema* Cameron is provided.

INTRODUCTION

In recent years we have collected considerable material belonging to the chalcidoid family Eucharitidae. Among these we came across an interesting new species of *Orasema* Cameron from Kerala. The new species is described below with a key for separation of Indian species of the genus. So far only two species are known from the Indian subcontinent (Das 1963, Kerrich 1964, Narendran 1985, 1986).

Orasema indica sp. nov.

FEMALE: Length 2.38 mm. Head and thorax dark green with metallic reflections; mandibles yellow with dark brown tips; eye yellowish white; scape, anellus and pedicel very pale yellow, flagellar segments brownish yellow, club yellowish brown; ocellus pale yellow; fore and mid coxae dark brown, hind coxa concolorous with thorax with its apex being dark brown; trochanter and femur dark brown except the apices of femur being pale yellow; tibia and tarsus pale yellow; claws dark brown; petiole concolorous with thorax; gaster dark brown; wing hyaline, veins yellow.

Head convex, transverse, slightly broader; head emarginate when viewed from dorsal side (Fig. 2) with lateral ocellus very near to occipital margin; head clearly smooth without any punctures or reticulations; supra-clypeal area rather rectangular, delimited by distinct furrows on sides, below and upper region (Fig. 1); antenna 11173 (Fig. 5), elongate with funicle segments

well separated, scape 1.9 x length of first flagellar segment; POL 1.3 x OOL; POL 1.9 x LOL.

Dorsum of thorax highly reticulate; scapulae with slight transverse reticulations, axilla broadly meeting in middle, scutellum acuminate; propodeum alveolate on sides with striation in middle; mesopleuron smooth except in middle, with sculptures more or less in an inverted Y-shaped form (Fig 4); sm:m:pm = 8.6:5.8:2.8 (Figs. 6-7).

Petiole elongate with longitudinal striations, more or less 4.8 x its breadth.

Gaster globose, smooth and shiny (Fig. 8).

MALE: Length 2.35 mm.

Male differs from female in having more elongated antenna (Fig.9) and petiole; scape is almost equal in length to first flagellar segment.

Host: Unknown.

Holotype: Female. INDIA: Kerala, Trichur, April 1986, T.C. Narendran (DZCU). Deposited in Dept. of Zoology, University of Calicut, Regd. No. SL 151.

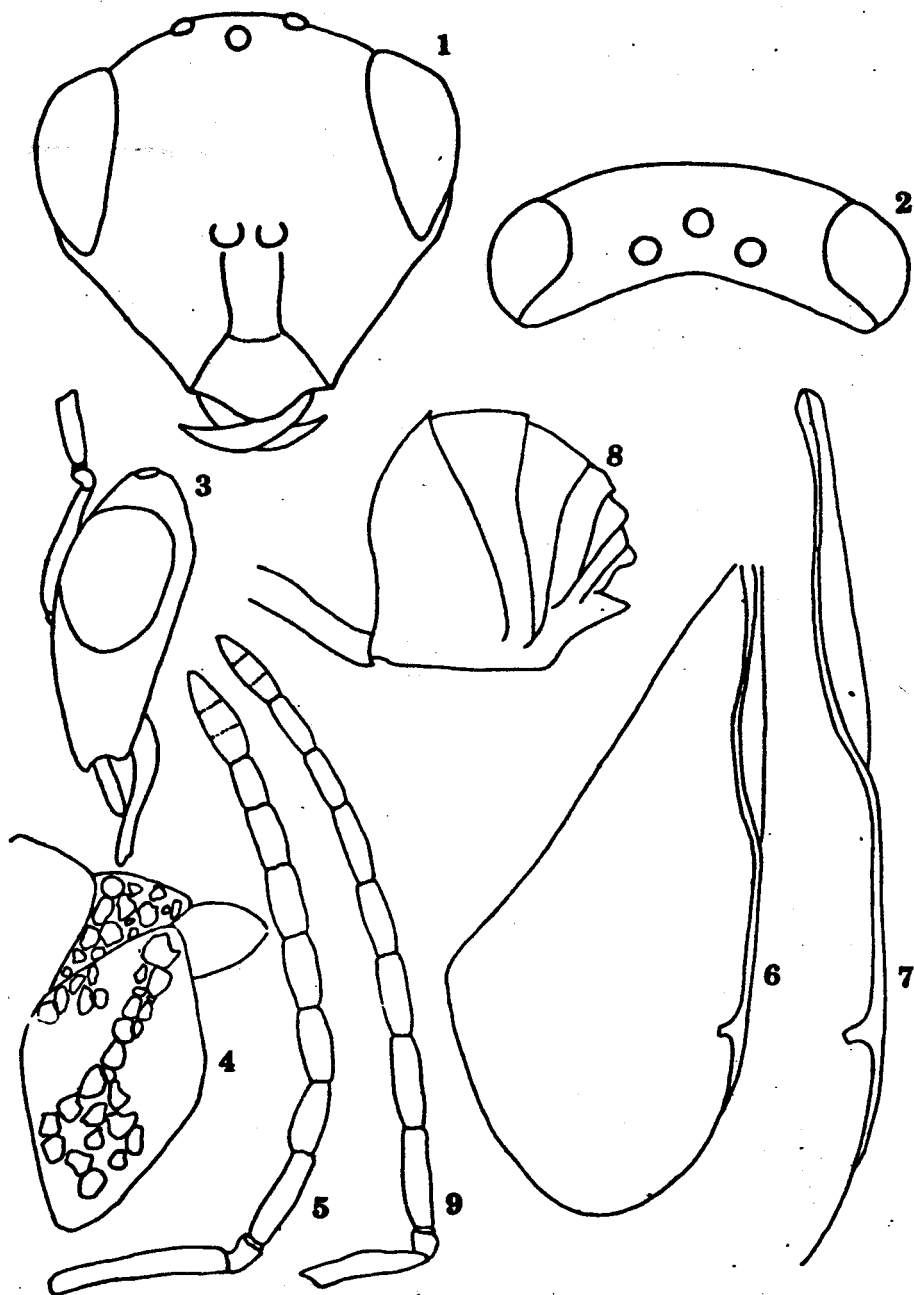
Paratype: Male of same data of holotype Regd. No. SL 145 (DZCU).

KEY TO INDIAN SPECIES OF *Orasema* CAMERON

1. Supra-clypeal area distinctly delimited at sides; head clearly smooth without any puncturations above; petiole 4.8 x its breadth *O. indica* sp. nov.
- Supra-clypeal area without any distinct delimitations 2
2. Sculpture on supra-clypeal area extremely fine and quite distinct; head with reticulate sculpture not notably coarser between ocellus and eye *O. assectator* Kerrich
- Supra-clypeal area smooth and shining; head with reticulate sculpture notably coarser between ocellus and eye *O. initiator* Kerrich

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Figs. 1-9. *Orasema indica* sp. nov.

1. Head, frontal view; 2. Head, dorsal view; 3. Head, lateral view; 4. Mesopleuron; 5. Antenna; 6. Forewing; 7. Forewing venation enlarged; 8. Gaster; 9. Male antenna.

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