A NEW SUBFAMILY OF BRACONIDAE (HYM.) FROM TERMITE NESTS.

By R. A. Cushman.

While with the Mulford Exploration to Bolivia Dr. Wm. M. Mann collected in termite nests two specimens representing two species of a remarkable new braconid genus and subfamily. The genus I am calling *Ypsistocerus* in reference to the position of the antennae, which are inserted apparently on the vertex directly above the eyes.

The host termites have been determined by Dr. T. E. Snyder.

Subfamily **Ypsistocerinae**, new subfamily.

Head opisthognathous, that is inserted beneath the thorax and bent backwards so that the face is nearly parallel with the venter; face very flat with a shallow median impression; clypeus separated, basal margin deeply arched, apex concavely truncate at level of mandibular articulation; labrum exserted, triangular; mandibles edentate, acute; maxillae very long, galea scoop shaped, lacinia extending beyond apex of mandibles, palpi two-jointed; labial palpi apparently wanting; antennae inserted above eyes, flagellum stout, tapering, the joints becoming successively shorter and thinner from base to apex; eyes small to rudimentary; ocelli small, arranged in an approximately equilateral triangle; occipital carina entirely wanting; pronotum very short medially; mesoscutum without notauli, medially longitudinally weakly impressed, with no carinae on posterior lateral margins and without a distinct prescutellar fovea; prepectal carina wanting; propodeum without carinae, not separated from metapleurum, spiracles minute, round; metapleurum not divided; coxae small; trochanters two-jointed; femora stout, thickest at apex; tibiae stout, slightly thickest just beyond base; tarsi very short, much shorter than tibiae, the joints short and thick, claws minute; wings ample, with very heavy veins; first intercubitus and postervulus missing; stigma very narrow with radius very near base, distinctly separated from metacarpus; metacarpus and radius extending to apex; basal vein obsolete for a distance above medius; subcostella obsolete except at base, the mediellan cell therefore open in front; radiella and cubitella obsolete except at extreme base; abdomen elongate ovate, depressed, sessile, second suture connate but evident, epipleura separated from second tergite by a fold; apical tergite prominent; ovipositor originating from a ventral cleft far before apex of abdomen, sheath narrow; entire body, including antennae, legs, and even the wings clothed with long hair.

Most of the characters mentioned are brought out in Plate 4.

Ypsistocerus, new genus.

The characters given for the subfamily.

Genotype.—*Ypsistocerus manni*, new species.

Although the mandibles do not close against the clypeus the opening left is very different in structure from that of the Cyclostomi and the genus evidently does not belong to that

group. Otherwise it runs best in Szepligeti's Genera Insectorum Key to couplet 17. Here it differs from those subfamilies falling under the first alternate in the presence of the second intercubitus and from those under the second alternate by the lack of the first intercubitus. Following the second alternate it runs, though not agreeing with all characters given, to the Opiinae. From this subfamily it is distinguishable at once by the position of the head and antennae and by the venation, and structure of the mouth parts, form of abdomen, short tarsi, and few-jointed antennae.

Ypsistocerus manni, new species. (Figure 1).

Female.—Length 2.75 mm.; antennae 2.0 mm.

Head polished; eyes small but well developed, about half as long as malar space, nearly circular; temples wider than eyes; antennae with fourteen joints; maxillary palpi slender. Thorax polished, mesoscutum obscurely punctate, hardly as broad as long, narrowed anteriorly. Abdomen granularly opaque; first tergite polished, broader than long, spiracles barely before middle; portion of sheath beyond apex of abdomen barely as long as apical tergite.

Dark piceous brown; lower part of pronotum, mesopleurum below, tegulae, postscutellum, posterior margins of mesonotum and metanotum, venter, and base of sheath pale; maxillae and labium white; antennae and legs dull flavous; wings hyaline, venation dark, stigma white at extreme base and apex.

Type-locality.—Rurrenabaque, Rio Beni, Bolivia.
Type.—Cat. No. 25964, U. S. N. M.
One specimen taken from nest of *Nasutitermes ephratae* Holmgren by W. M. Mann.

Ypsistocerus vestigialis, new species. (Figures 2 & 3).

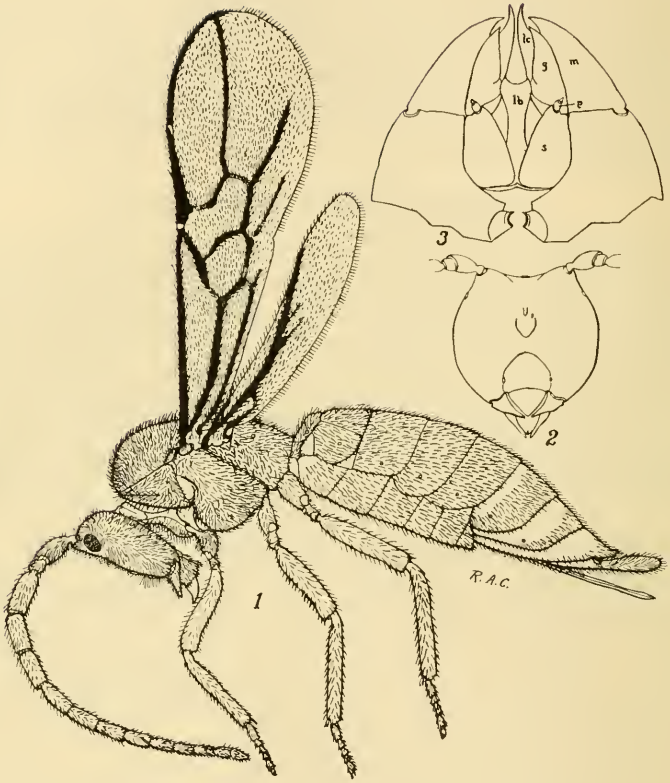
Distinguishable at once from *manni* by its vestigial eyes and differing further as follows:

Female.—Length 2.0 mm.; antennae 1.6 mm.

Antennae with thirteen joints; maxillary palpi short and stout, the apical joint much shorter and smaller than basal; mesoscutum longer than broad, hardly narrowed anteriorly; first tergite as long as broad, spiracles before middle; exserted portion of sheath as long as apical and subapical tergites combined.

In arrangement of color like *manni* but the general color is brownish yellow.

Type-locality.—Rurrenabaque, Rio Beni, Bolivia.
Type.—Cat. No. 25965, U. S. N. M.
One specimen taken from nest of *Nasutitermes cornigera* Motschulsky by W. M. Mann.



CUSHMAN—YPSISTOCERUS.

Figure 1. *Ypsistocerus manni.* Lateral view to show general structure and wing venation.

Figure 2. *Ypsistocerus vestigialis.* Head, facial view.

Figure 3. *Ypsistocerus vestigialis.* Mouth parts, ventral view: *g*—galea, *lb*–labium, *lc*–lacinia, *m*–mandible, *p*–maxillary palpus, *s*–stipes.

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