

**A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *PLASTANOXUS*
(HYMENOPTERA : BETHYLIDAE) FROM JAPAN**

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The genus *Plastanoxus* is one of the rare bethylid wasps belonging to the subfamily Epyrinae. Evans (1964) revised the genus and listed 5 species from the world. Hedqvist (1975) described *Snappania ahusiensis* from Sweden, which was later transferred formally to the genus *Plastanoxus* by Evans (1978). In 1978, Evans added 1 species from North America. Thus the genus has been represented by 7 species: 2 from the Nearctic, 2 from the Palaearctic, 1 from the Nearctic and Neotropical, 1 from the Holarctic, and 1 from the Holarctic and Ethiopian regions.

In this paper, we are going to describe a new species of this genus from Amami-ōshima Island, the southern part of Japan.

Measurements and their abbreviations used in this paper follow those in Evans (1964, 1978). We express our thanks to Mrs. Akemi Sakai, née Oda for gift of the specimens.

***Plastanoxus amamiensis* sp. nov.**

(Japanese name: Tsutsukinoko-arigatabachi)

Plastanoxus sp., Tachikawa and Oda, 1977, Trans. Shikoku Ent. Soc., 13: 129.

Female. Head length 0.38 mm; head width 0.30 mm; width of front 0.20 mm; total length 1.5 mm; forewing length 1.0 mm.

Color black; mandibles, antennae and legs brown; 1st and anterior half of second gastric tergites somewhat brownish; wings hyaline; veins, stigma and prostigma brownish.

Head (Fig. 1: A) rectangular, with convex sides and weakly convex occipital border; WH $0.8 \times$ LH. Eyes with hairs; WF $1.14 \times$ HE; distance from eye tops to vertex crest subequal to HE. Ocelli small in a right triangle, OOL $1.5 \times$ WOT. Antennae with 12 segments; first 5 segments in a ratio of about 35:15:5:5:7; segment 3 wider than long. Clypeus broadly truncate apically. Mandibles (Figs. 1: I; 2: F) slender, with a sharp apical tooth and 2 small blunt teeth. Maxillary palpi with 4 segments, labial with 2 segments.

Head shining and weakly reticulated; thoracic dorsum smooth and shining. Scutellum with a pair of round basal pits connected by a groove. Propodeal disc

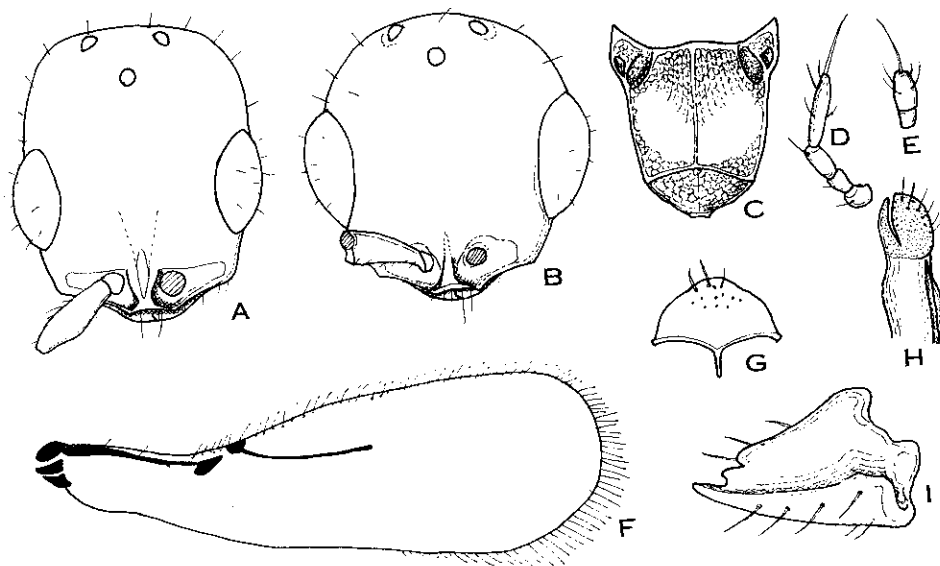


Fig. 1. *Platanoxus amamiensis* sp. nov.
 A, head in frontal view (♀); B, ditto (♂); C, propodeum (♀); D, maxillary palpus (♂); E, labial palpus (♂); F, forewing (♀); G, subgenital plate (♂); H, paramere of genitalia (♂); I, mandible (♀).
 [Drawn by M. Terayama.]

(Fig. 1: C) $0.67 \times$ as long as its anterior width, about as long as its posterior width; median carina delicate but nearly complete to the transverse carina; central, basal and posterolateral areas with fine reticulations, elsewhere smooth and shining; propodeal declivity strongly reticulated.

Forewing (Figs. 1: F; 2: C) without closed cells; radial vein nearly straight, extending about $0.37 \times$ distance from stigma to wing tip.

Abdomen smooth and shining.

Male. Head length 0.33 mm; head width 0.35 mm; width of front 0.23 mm; total length 1.3 mm; forewing length 1.0 mm.

Color black; mandibles, antennae dark brown; legs dark brown except tibiae light brown; 1st and anterior half of second gastric tergites somewhat brownish; wings hyaline; veins, stigma and prostigma brownish.

Head (Fig. 1: B) rounded, without posterolateral angles; WH $1.08 \times$ LH. Eyes with short hairs, WF $1.5 \times$ HE. Front angle of ocellar triangle more than a right angle; median ocellus far behind the eyes; OOL about as long as WOT. Antennae with 12 segmented; first 5 segments in a ratio of about 23:17:7:8:8; segment 3 about as wide as long. Clypeus and mandibles as in female. Maxillary palpi (Fig. 1: D) with 4 segments, labial palpi (Fig. 1: E) with 2 segments.

Head and pronotum shining and very weakly reticulated; mesonotum and scutellum smooth and shining. Propodeum as in female, wing venation also in that sex.

Abdomen smooth and shining. Subgenital plate (Fig. 1: G) half circular, with

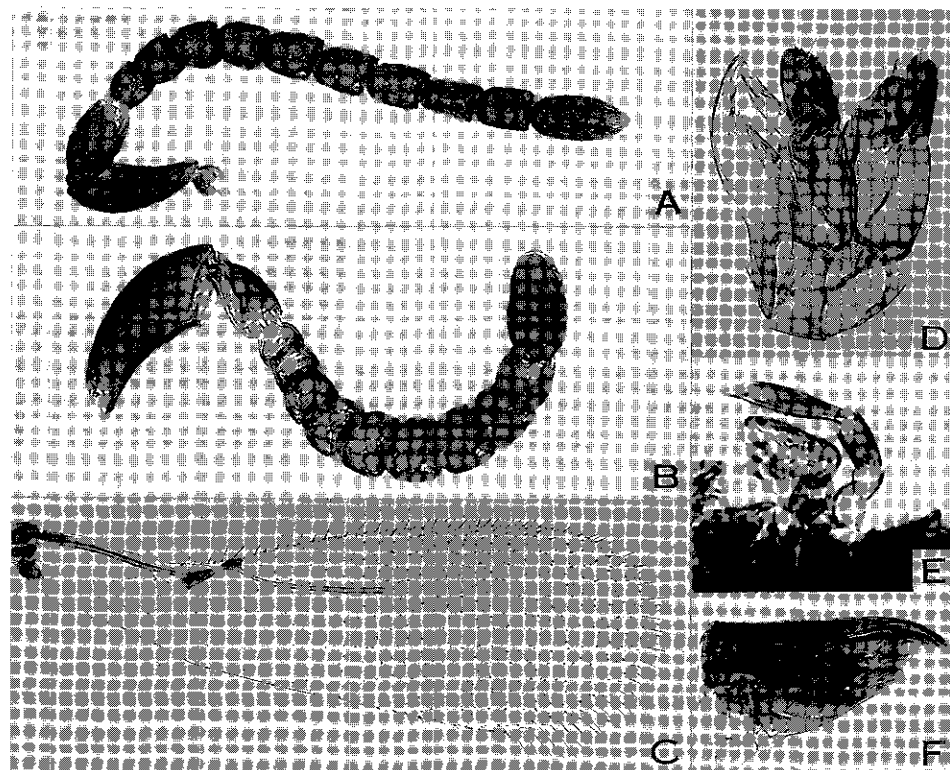


Fig. 2. *Plastanoxus amamiensis* sp. nov.

A, antenna (♂), B, ditto (♀); C, forewing (♀); D, genitalia (♂); E, maxillary and labial palpi (♂); F, mandible (♀). [Tachikawa and Oda, 1977.]

long median basal stalk. Parameres of genitalia (Fig. 1: H) divided into a broad ventral and a more slender dorsal arm.

Holotype: ♀, 6-IV-1977, Shin-mura, Amami-ōshima Is., Kagoshima Pref., Japan, reared by A. Oda from *Octotemnus laminifrons*.

Paratypes: 4 ♀ 7 ♂, same data as in holotype.

Type deposition: The holotype and some paratypes are deposited in the Entomological Laboratory, College of Agriculture, Ehime University, and the other paratypes in the National Institute of Agro-Environmental Sciences and the Osaka Museum of Natural History.

Distribution: Japan (Amami-ōshima Is.).

Host: *Octotemnus laminifrons* Motschulsky (Coleoptera: Ciidae) (Japanese name: Tsuya-tsutsukinokomushi).

Remarks: The present species similar to *P. chittendenii* (Ashmead) from the United States, Canada and England, in having the forewings without closed median cells, and shorter and almost straight radial vein. However, it is distinguished from the latter by 3-toothed mandibles, wider 3rd antennal segments and black color of body. This genus is recorded from the Oriental region for the first time.

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