

***Plagiolepis exigua*** Forel, 1894

Figs. 3 a-c

*Plagiolepis exigua* Forel, 1894b: 417. Syntype worker, INDIA, Poona (*Wroughton*), (MHNG) [examined].

*Syntype worker*.— TL 1.23, HL 0.36, HW 0.31, SL 0.26, EL 0.06, PRW 0.20, ML 0.35, SI 84, CI 86.

Mesosoma, legs, antennae, clypeus and mandibles yellow, head and gaster pale yellowish brown, the latter with a more or less longitudinal median yellowish band that interrupt the brownish tergites. Smooth and shining. Head oval, longer than broad with convex sides, nearly as broad anteriorly as posteriorly. Eyes situated in the anterior third of head sides and with 6 ommatidia in the longest row (EL 0.19 X HW). Anterior clypeal margin convex and without carinae. Scapes fail to reach the posterior margin of head. Second funicular segment distinctly shorter than third. Funicular segments 2-4 broader than long, the fifth funicular segment as long as or little longer than broad. Occiput feebly concave. Mesosoma compact, short with convex pronotum and mesonotum and distinct mesonotal and metanotal grooves. Basal face of propodeum short, while its descending face long. Pubescence yellow, fine and regularly distributed over whole body. Very few erect hairs except on anterior of clypeus.

*Remark*.— Forel mentioned that the scapes of this species reach posterior margin of head, but the scapes fail to reach the margin in the syntype. In addition, he gave the funiculus segments 2-5 x broader than long. On the syntype the fifth segment is as long as or little longer than broad.

*Material examined*.— Saudi Arabia, Fayfa, 30.iii.1983 (*leg. C.A. Collingwood*) (2 specimens (WML)); Yemen, Taiz, ii.1991 (*leg. A. van Harten*) (1 specimen) (WML); Yemen, Seyun, 12-14.viii.02, light trap (*leg. A. van Harten*) (8 specimens) (WML).

*Distribution in Arabia*.— Taiz, Aden, Al-Mahwit, Al-Turabah (Yemen) (Collingwood & Agosti, 1996).

***Plagiolepis juddi*** Sharaf & Aldawood sp. n.

Fig. 4 a

*Holotype worker*.— YEMEN, Lahj, v.2002 (*A. van Harten*). The Entomological Collection, World Museum Liverpool (WML), Liverpool, U.K.

TL 1.02, HL 0.29, HW 0.28, SL 0.31, EL 0.07, PRW 0.18, ML 0.40, CI 97, SI 111.

Unicolorous bright yellow, mandibular teeth, posterior margins of first and fourth gastral tergites yellowish brown. Head nearly as long as broad with convex sides and nearly straight or shallowly concave occiput. Head dorsum smooth and shining. Scapes distinctly short not reaching posterior margin of head. Second funicular segment broader than long, third and fourth funicular segments distinctly longer than broad. Eyes oval with about 9 ommatidia in the longest row, EL 0.25 X HW. Whole mesosoma smooth and brilliant. Metanotal groove shallow but distinct. Basal face of propodeum sloping evenly to the descending face making a continuous curve. Pubescence sparse on head and gaster and absent on mesosoma. Antennae with dense appressed pubescence.

*Remarks*. *Plagiolepis juddi* appears similar to *P. exigua* but is consistently smaller, TL 1.02 versus 1.23; has a higher scape index, SI 111 versus 84; larger eyes, EL 0.25X HW versus 0.19X HW; higher mesosomal length, ML 0.40 versus 0.35. In addition, CI 97 in *P. juddi*, whereas CI 86 in *P. exigua*. The fourth funicular segment of *P. juddi* is distinctly longer than broad, while it is broader than long in *P. exigua*. Furthermore, *P. juddi* has much sparser pubescence than *P. exigua*.

**Etymology**. Named in honor of Dr. Stephen Judd (Director of World Museum Liverpool).

***Plagiolepis pallescens maura*** Santschi, 1920

*Plagiolepis maura* Santschi, 1920: 169. Syntype worker and two syntype males and one syntype queen, MOROCCO: Magador, iv.1905 (*Vaucher*) (NHMB) [examined].

*Plagiolepis pallescens*: Emery, 1924:8.

*Syntype worker*.— TL 1.49, HL 0.45, HW 0.39, SL 0.39, EL 0.12, CI 87, SI 100, PRW 0.25, ML 0.46