
Untersuchtes Material. — 3 Cotypen von Otonilco, Jalisco, Mexico, W. M. Mann leg.

Nomenklatur. — Der Name "graciellae" ist ein Druckfehler, wie aus der Originalbeschreibung hervorgeht. Mann sagt ausdrücklich, dass die Art der Entdeckerin Señorita Graciella Mercedes Maderiaga gewidmet ist. In einem solchen Falle ist private Emendation des Namens erlaubt. Mayr, Linsley & Usinger (1953, p. 231) sagen: "In the case of modern patronymics, where the spelling of the scientific name is different from that of the person to whom the genus or species is dedicated, the spelling of the scientific name is to be emended". In einer früheren Arbeit (1953) habe ich den Namen bereits in *graciellae* umgeändert.

Diskussion. — Mann gibt keine Vergleichsart an. Ohne Typenuntersuchung wäre es kaum möglich gewesen, die systematische Stellung dieser Art zu klären. *N. graciellae* steht *melanocephalus* am nächsten, unterscheidet sich aber durch den kürzeren und dickeren Fühlerschaft, die kürzere Geissel, den stärker eingesattelten Thorax, das glänzende Promesonotum, die Form des Petiolus, den längeren anteroventralen Zahn, die kürzeren Beine und die Farbung; während bei *melanocephalus* Kopf und Gaster schwarzbraun sind, ist bei *graciellae* nur der Gaster dunkelbraun.

Originalbeschreibung

Ecton graciellae Mann (1926). — "Worker. Length 2.75-4 mm. Head a little longer than broad, broadest in front of middle, sides moderately convex, posterior corners narrowly rounded, border shallowly concave. Eyes very distinct, situated a little behind the middle of front of sides. Mandibular blades finely and bluntly denticulate. Antennal scapes extending a little beyond the eyes, all funicular joints longer than broad. Thorax rather slender, in profile evenly convex. Epinotum on a lower plane than the promesonotum, its surface shallowly impressed at basal half, very feebly convex behind, twice as long as broad and one and one half times as long as the declivity, into which it very broadly rounds. Petiole in profile a little longer than high, convex above, with the antero-ventral spine strong, elongate, curved and acute at apex, extending backward; from above longer than broad, with feebly convex sides, postpetiole in profile as long as high and convex above; from above a little longer than broad, with nearly straight sides. Legs long, rather slender, claws simple. — Shining. Mandibles rather coarsely striate. Head and body sparsely, moderately, coarsely punctate, except on the impressed anterior portion of epinotum and on the meso- and metapleurae which are densely punctate and subopaque. Fine, elongate, erect yellowish hairs abundant on head, body and appendages, on the gaster mixed with shorter and subappressed hairs. Gaster dark brown to black, remainder bright brownish red. — Type locality: Otonilco, Jalisco, Mexico. Cotypes: Cat. No. 29045 U.S.N.M. — Described from nine workers taken from a file running through the grass in an orange grove, and named in honor of Señorita Graciella Mercedes Maderiaga, the child who found them".