

THREE NEW SPECIES AND A NEW RECORD SPECIES OF TRIBE PRENOLEPIDINI (HYMENOPTERA: FORMICIDAE) FROM GUANGXI, CHINA

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Abstract Three new species of tribe Prenolepidini from Guangxi, China, are described, i. e. *Prenolepis sphingthoraxa* sp. nov. *Prenolepis umbra* sp. nov. and *Paratrechina opisophthalmia* sp. nov. A newly recorded species i. e. *Paratrechina aseta* (Forel) is reported.

Key words Hymenoptera, Formicidae, Prenolepidini, new species

The genus *Prenolepis* was erected by Mayr in 1861, based on the type-species *P. nitens* (Mayr 1853) (= *Tapinoma nitens* Mayr 1853). This genus is one of the smallest genera in the subfamily Formicidae, including 9 species and 9 varieties (Bolton 1995), among them 3 species distribute over the Oriental region and 2 species over the Indo-Australian region. The genus *Paratrechina* was erected by Motschulsky in 1863, based on the type-species *P. longicornis* (Latreille 1802) (= *Formica longicornis* Latreille 1802). The genus is one of the largest genera in the subfamily, including 107 species, among them 14 species distribute over the Oriental region and 22 species over the Indo-Australian region (Bolton 1995). The two genera belong in the tribe Prenolepidini. When the authors study the ants of Zhuang Autonomous Region of Guangxi, two new species belonging to the genus *Prenolepis* Mayr, one new species and a newly recorded species belonging to the genus *Paratrechina* Motschulsky are discovered. Descriptions of them are presented as below. The holotype specimens are deposited in the Institute of Zoology, Shaanxi Normal University, Xi'an, and the paratype specimens are deposited in the Department of Biology, Guangxi Normal University, Guilin. The measurements and indices used in this paper are as defined by Holldobler and Wilson (1990). All the measurements are expressed in millimeters, and the indices are expressed in percentage.

1 *Prenolepis sphingthoraxa* sp. nov. (Figs. 1,2)

Holotype worker: TL 3.4, HL 0.85, HW 0.72, CI 84, SL 1.20, SI 166, PW