

## ANOTHER INDIAN SPECIES OF *HOMOPORUS* THOMSON (HYMENOPTERA: CHALCIDOIDEA: PTEROMALIDAE)

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### Abstract

The Indian species of *Homoporus* Thomson has been reviewed. After the recent description of a new species *Homoporus gladius* from India, another new species, *Homoporus acuminatus* sp. nov. is described in this paper. A key to Indian species of *Homoporus* is provided.

### Key words

*Pteromalidae*, *Homoporus*, *Homoporus acuminatus* sp. nov., *Homoporus gladius*, key

### Abbreviations

BMNH - The Natural History Museum, London

MV - Marginal vein

PMV - Postmarginal vein

SMV - Submarginal vein

T1 - First gastral tergite

F1-F4 - Funicular segments 1 to 4

OOL - Ocell-ocular distance

POL - Post-ocellar distance

STV - Stigmal vein

ZSI - Zoological Survey of India

### Introduction

*Homoporus* Thomson is well known from the western Palaearctic and Nearctic regions (Graham, 1969; Boucek & Heydon, 1997). From the Oriental region the genus is poorly known. Boucek *et al.* (1979) reported an undetermined species of *Homoporus* from Pakistan and, Sureshan and Narendran (2000) described a species, *H. gladius* from India. In this paper, a new species, *H. acuminatus* sp. nov. from India is described along with a key to the Indian species.

***Homoporus acuminatus* sp. nov.**  
(Figs. 1-2)

### Material examined

Holotype: Female, iv.1989, Calicut University Campus, Malappuram District, Kerala, Coll. P.M. Sureshan (ZSI, Calicut). Paratypes: One female, same data as that of holotype; One female, 6.v.1989, Anappady, Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary, Kerala, Coll. P.M. Sureshan; Six females, ii.1987, 3.xi.1986, v.1988, v.1989,

vii.1989, viii.1989, Calicut University Campus, Kerala, Coll. T.C. Narendran and party; One female, 26.ii.1988, Neeleswaram, Kasaragod District, Kerala, Coll. P.M. Sureshan (ZSI, Calicut).

### Distribution

India: Calicut in Kerala.

### Etymology

Species name pertains to the acuminate nature of antenna.

### Diagnostic features

Female: Length 1.3-2.3mm (Holotype 2.3mm). Head and mesosoma black; gaster yellowish brown; antennae testaceous with basal half of scape white; coxae brown, remainder of legs testaceous; fore coxae and femora darker; tegulae brown; wings hyaline; veins pale brown.

Head: Finely engraved reticulate with sparse white hairs; clypeus finely striate, striae reaching little below lower margin of eyes; anterior margin of clypeus weakly emarginate. In dorsal view head width 1.3x width of mesoscutum and 2.1x length and in front view width 1.3x height; vertex almost smooth, narrow; temple length half of eye length; POL 1.2x OOL; malar sulcus

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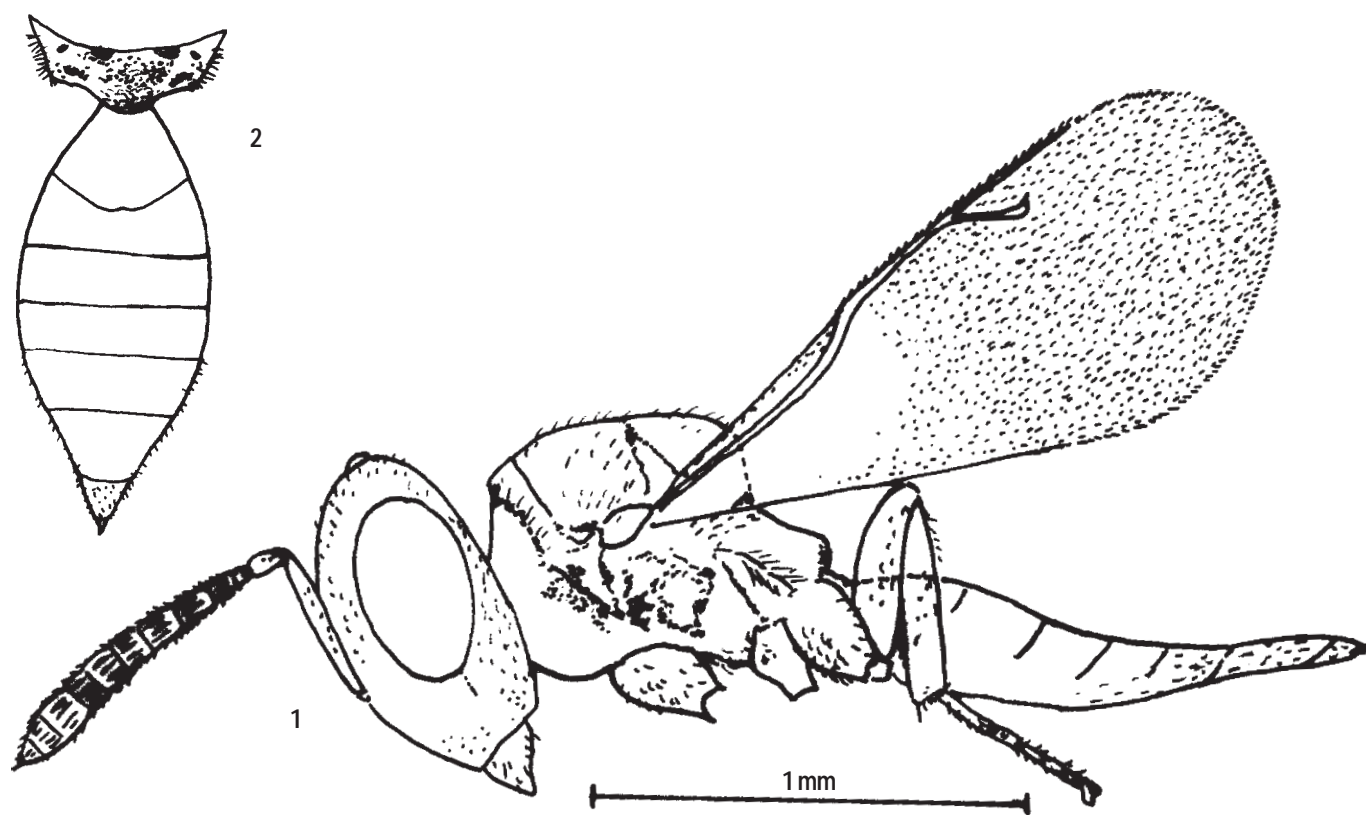
weakly indicated; malar space length 0.5x eye height; eyes separated 1.4x their height. Antennae inserted below middle of face, almost level with lower margin of eyes; scape not reaching median ocellus, length 0.9x eye height; pedicel plus flagellum length 0.8x head width; funicular segments gradually widening towards the tip; club acuminate with a sharp terminal stylus.

Mesosoma: Figure 1. Strongly arched in profile with sparse white hairs; pronotum finely reticulate, anterior margin of collar finely ridged mainly on sides. Mesoscutum with broad meshed reticulation, width 2.5x length. Scutellum medially 1.1x as long as mesoscutum, similarly sculptured as mesoscutum. Propodeum (Fig. 2) medially 0.6x as long as scutellum, very finely reticulate, nucha small, little raised, spiracles short, elongatedly oval; callus with thin long hairs, not dense. Mesopleuron and metapleuron almost smooth. Fore wing (Fig. 1) with basal part almost bare, discal pubescence short but dense, costal cell hairy on the upper half, almost completely towards the distal tip. Relative lengths: SMV 24, MV 12.5, PMV 11.5, STV 6.

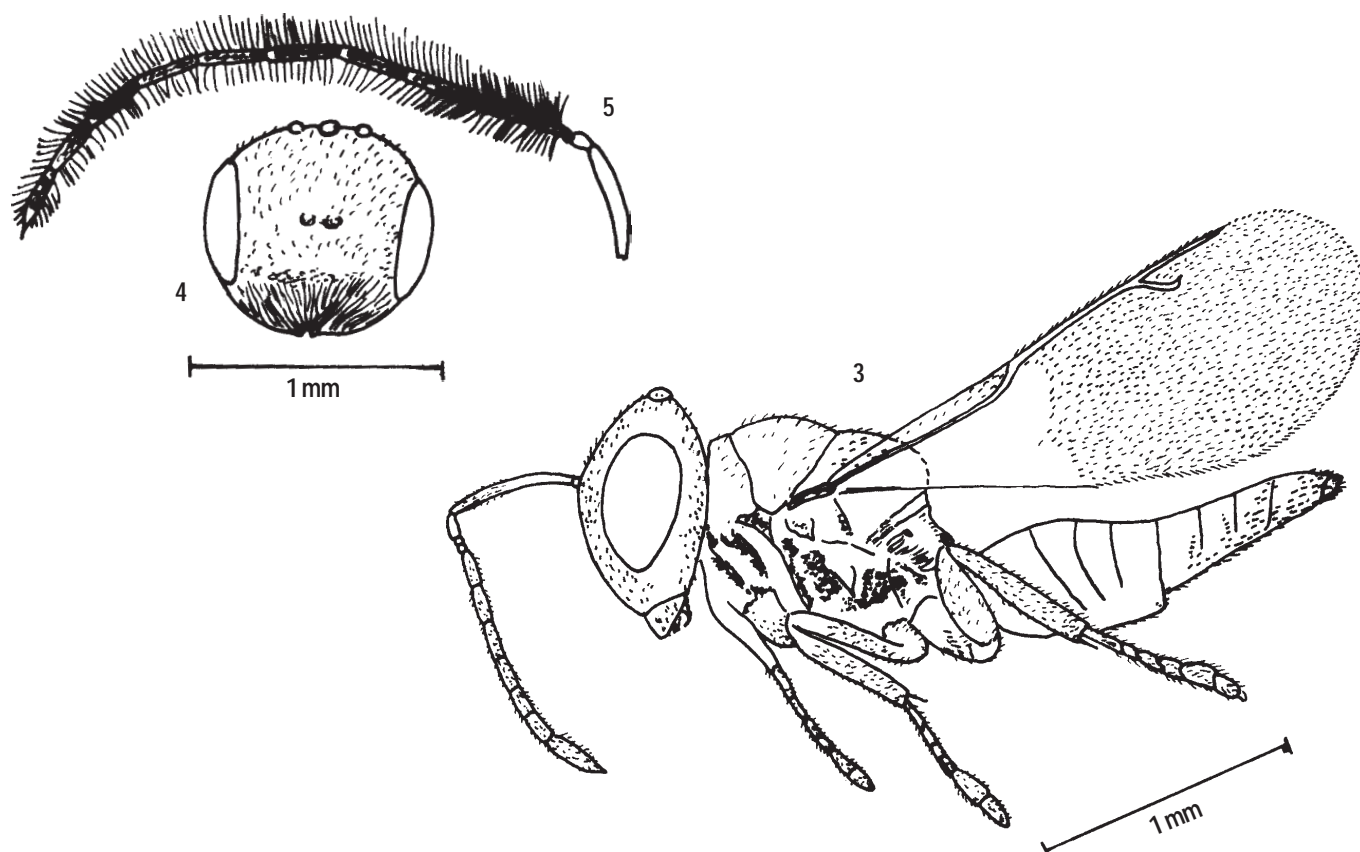
Gaster: (Fig. 2) Ovate, smooth, dorsally collapsing; petiole small, transverse; gaster little longer than head plus mesosoma combined (1.1x); hind margin of T1 medially produced and slightly incised in the middle.

#### Remarks

In the key to British species of *Homoporus* by Graham (1969) this species keyed out to the couplet 12. It resembles *H. fulviventr* (Walker) in having antennae inserted slightly above level of ventral margin of eyes, combined length of pedicel plus flagellum distinctly less than width of head and club with a terminal stylus. One of us (PMS) examined the type of *H. fulviventr* (Walker) (= *Pteromalus fulviventr* Walker in BMNH. *H. acuminatus* sp. nov. differs from *H. fulviventr* in having antennae uniformly testaceous with F1-F4 distinctly longer than wide, scutellum strongly convex in profile, head finely reticulate and gaster more brownish and body not slender (in *fulviventr* F1 almost quadrate, other funicular segments quadrate to slightly transverse, scape and pedicel blackish brown, scutellum less convex, head moderately reticulate, gaster more yellowish and body slender.).



Figures 1-2. *Homoporus acuminatus* sp. nov. (Female).  
1. Body in profile; 2. Propodeum and gaster in dorsal view.



Figures 3-5. *Homoporus gladius* Sureshan and Narendran.  
3. Body in profile (female); 4. Head in front view (female); 5. Antenna (male).

***Homoporus gladius* Sureshan and Narendran**  
(Figs. 3-5)

*Homoporus gladius* Sureshan and Narendran (2000), 10 females, 18 males, India: Kerala (ZSI, Calicut).

**Distribution**

India: Kerala.

**Diagnostic features**

Female: Length 2.5-2.8 mm. Head and mesosoma black without metallic reflection. Gaster pale brownish yellow with two dark brown lines dorso-laterally on either sides, tip also brown. Head finely reticulate, clypeus and lower face striated, lower margin of clypeus with a deep notch in the middle (Fig. 4). Antennae inserted in the middle of face, scape reaching beyond median ocellus; club acute, terminal stylus not prominent.

Mesosoma: (Fig. 3) Moderately arched in profile, reticulate punctate. Propodeum finely reticulate, median carina indicated

towards the distal part; nucha convex. Fore wing with PMV distinctly shorter than MV.

Gaster: (Fig. 3) Elongate, ovate, dorsally collapsing with a short petiole; hind margin of T1 almost straight.

Male: (Fig. 5) Length 1.9-2.6 mm. Resembles female except for the antenna inserted high up on face with funicular segments elongate and densely pubescent and gaster short with a yellow spot sub-apically on dorsal part.

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## Key to the Indian species of *Homoporus* Thomson

1. Antennae slender (Fig. 3) inserted distinctly above lower margin of eyes, club with apex acute, terminal stylus not prominent; gaster with hind margin of T1 straight; fifth tarsal segment of mid and hind legs swollen (Fig. 3) ..... *H. gladiatus* Sureshan and Narendran
2. Antennae not slender (Fig. 1), inserted almost level with lower margin of eyes, club acuminate with terminal stylus prominent; gaster with hind margin of T1 medially produced and slightly incised (Fig. 2); tarsal segments not swollen as above ..... *H. acuminatus* sp. nov.

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