Notes on Two Sphecinae Described by Fox

(Hymenoptera : Sphecidae)

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Recently Dr. G. Wallace of the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh sent me some Sphecinae wasps for determination. Included in the lot were syntypes of two species described by Fox. I am selecting lectotypes for both and describing features not adequately covered by Fox in the original descriptions.

ISODONTIA (ISODONTIA) LAEVIPES (FOX)

Sphex laevipes Fox, 1897. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, 1897: 375. Lectotype ♂, Uacarizal (Uacurizal, Mato Grosso, Brazil?). Carnegie Museum. Present designation.

MALE.—Length 17 mm; antenna, head, scutum, scutellum, postscutellum, mesosternum, profemur, and gaster black; remainder of body reddish brown except for black tints on pronotal collar and on the mesofemora and metafemora and tibiae; leading margin of forewing infumate, remainder clear, veins brown; erect hair of body pale; face, pronotal collar, and lateral propodeal stripe of silver appressed hair; no sternal ciliate bands; flagellomere I slightly shorter than II and III combined; flagellomeres IV and V with narrow fossulae; free margin of clypeus with a broad, deep emargination; petiole longer than metatarsal segment I; aedeagus and sternite VIII as in Figs. 2 and 3, respectively; second submarginal cell about as high as wide.

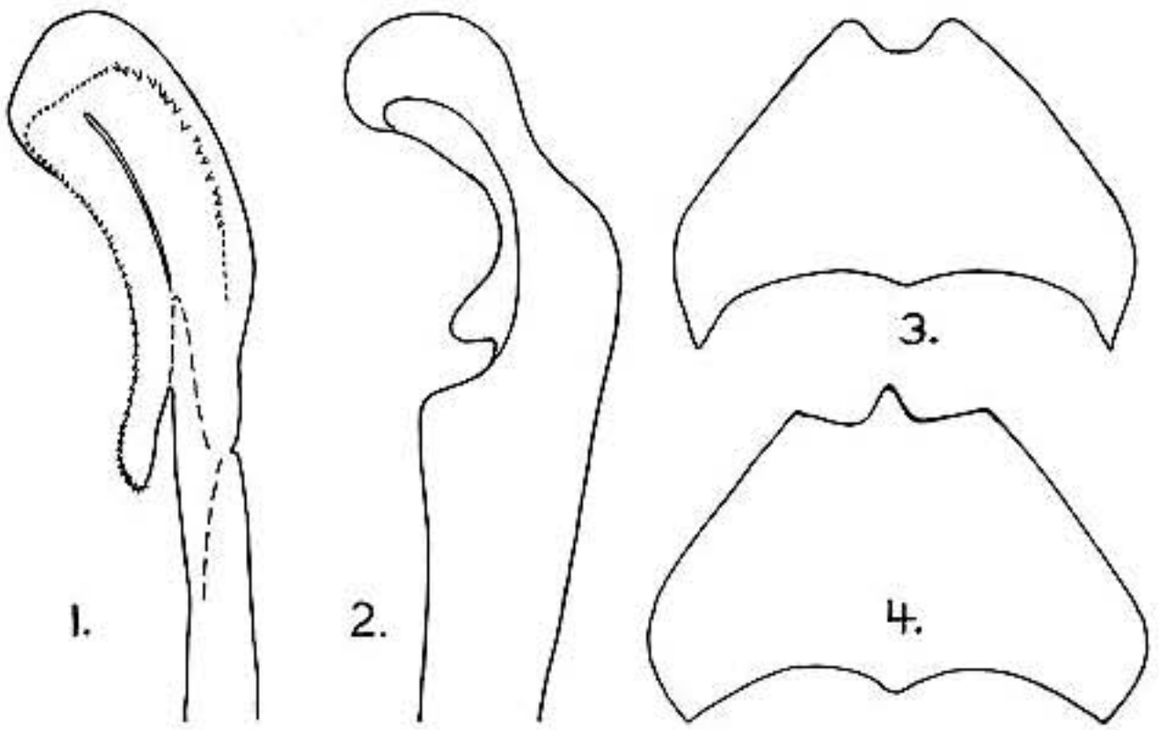
FEMALE.—Length 17 mm; body black except for following reddish areas: proximal end of petiole, and inner surfaces of middle and hind legs; pubescence as in male; forewing more broadly and strongly infumate than in male; free margin of clypeus truncate but with a small median impressed lip.

Fox listed one male and three females in his description but only one male and one female could be found in the Carnegie collection. The one female examined is from Chapada (Chapada dos Guimaraes, Mato Grosso). This species belongs in the fuscipennis group outlined by Bohart and Menke (1963: 133). The aedeagus and the emarginate male clypeus are distinctive in *Isodontia laevipes*. The impressed clypeal lip in the female appears to be the only feature which readily separates this species from female *Isodontia fuscipennis*. *I. laevipes* is known only from the types.

SPHEX FERRUGINEIPES FOX

Sphex ferrugineipes Fox, 1897. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, 1897: 377. Lectotype ♂, Chapada (dos Guimaraes, Mato Grosso, Brazil). Carnegie Museum. Present designation.

MALE.—Length 18 mm; head, thorax, petiole, coxa, black; mandibles, free margin of clypeus, tegula, gaster, trochanter, femur, tibia, and tarsus, red; wings



EXPLANATION OF FIGURES

Figs. 1 and 2, aedeagus, profile at apex, of *Sphex ferrugineipes* and *Isodontia laevipes*, respectively. Figs. 3 and 4, outline of male sternite VIII of *I. laevipes* and *S. ferrugineipes*, respectively.

clear; erect hair pale; face with appressed silver hair; lobe and collar of pronotum, tegula, scutal furrows, postscutellum, propodeum at petiole socket, mesopleura behind pronotal lobe, pleural spot at mesocoxa and weak stripe along anterior margin of stigmatal groove, and forecoxa with appressed silver hair; flagellomeres IV–VI with moderately broad fossulae; gastral sternites IV–VII with transverse bands of pale cilia; sternite VIII as in Fig. 4; aedeagus as in Fig. 1.

FEMALE.—Average length 20 mm; markings and pubescence as in male.

Fox described this species from three females and ten males but three of the males could not be found.

This species is very similar to *S. ichneumoneus* (Linnaeus) and *S. dorsalis* Lepeletier; however, *S. ferrugineipes* is not as densely nor as extensively pubescent as these two species. In addition, the hair color is usually deep golden in *S. ichneumoneus* and *S. dorsalis* while in *S. ferrugineipes* it is silver. The three fossulae on the antenna of *S. ferrugineipes* readily separate this species from male *S. dorsalis* which only have two. The aedeagus and subgenital plate will separate *S. ferrugineipes* males from *S. ichneumoneus* males. For comparison the aedeagi of *S. ichneumoneus* and *S. dorsalis* are figured by Bohart and Menke (1963). See Figs. 75 and 81 (mislabeled *nudus*) for *S. dorsalis* and Fig. 83 for *S. ichneumoneus*. The male antennae of these two species are also illustrated by Figs. 90 and 92.

Females of *S. ferrugineipes* are more difficult to identify. The clypeus of *S. dorsalis* females is keel-like or carinate dorsally along the midline whereas female *S. ferrugineipes* and *S. ichneumoneus* have a flattened clypeus dorsally. The dense golden pubescence will help to separate *S. ichneumoneus* females from the silver-haired *S. ferrugineipes*. Both *S. ichneumoneus* and *S. dorsalis* females can have a completely red gaster; however, they commonly have a few black gastral segments in contrast to the all-red gaster of *S. ferrugineipes*. Some of the males of *S. ferrugineipes* have black areas on the gastral tergites.

The six male and three female lectoparatypes are from Chapada. Fox also gave Corumbá as a type locality.

LITERATURE CITED

BOHART, R. M., AND A. S. MENKE. 1963. A reclassification of the Sphecinae with a revision of the Nearctic species of the tribes Sceliphronini and Sphecini. Univ. of Calif. Publ. Entomol., 30 (2): 91–182.

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