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(Hymenoptera : Sphecidae)

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Species in the Genus *Astata* Latreille**

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Few *Astata* have been collected from the numerous islands that comprise the Antilles. In fact, the two species known were described from three specimens, and I could only locate seven other specimens in both foreign and domestic museums. However, among this small lot are noteworthy items.

ASTATA UNICOLOR Say

Astata unicolor Say, 1824. In Keating, Narrative of Long's 2nd Exped., 2: 337.
Astata insularis Cresson, 1865. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Phila., 4: 140. New synonymy.
Astata rufiventris Cresson, 1872. Trans. Amer. Entomol. Soc., 4: 218.

Cresson (1865) described *A. insularis* from two females collected in Cuba. After examining the holotype, I believe that *A. insularis* should be synonymized under *A. unicolor*. I can find no reliable characters which will separate them. The type of *A. insularis* has a bicolored abdomen, but among *A. unicolor* populations this character occurs sporadically. I have seen specimens of *A. unicolor* from Claxton, Ga. that have a bicolored abdomen and in an earlier paper (Parker, 1962) the distribution of these red and black color forms included the southern tip of Florida. Also, I have seen a typical male *A. unicolor* from Guabaioir, Central Soledad, Cuba.

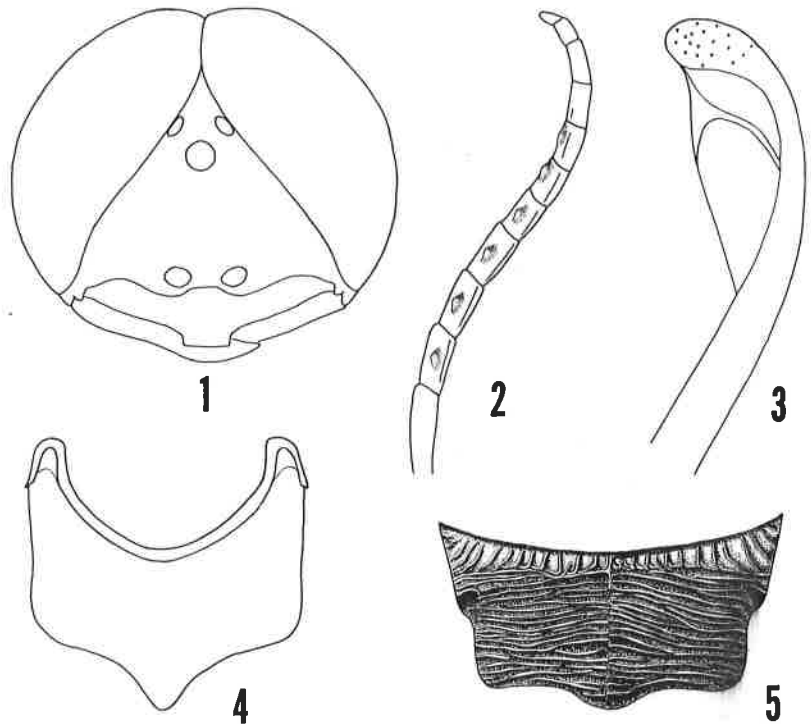
The distribution of *A. unicolor* is now extended to Jamaica, as I have a male from this island.

ASTATA DOMINICA Pate

Astata dominica Pate, 1947. Entomol. News, 58: 230.

MALE.—Black; forewing lightly stained brown in cellular area, apically hyaline. Pubescence silvery-white, of usual length, thickness; sternite IV-VI without median hairbrush. Punctuation coarse, pits on head, thorax close, small; abdomen finely shagreen with scattered pits; propodeal enclosure with longitudinal median carina, lateral striae radiating from median carina (fig. 5). Median clypeal lobe apically truncate; flagellomeres II-VII with entire linelike tyloides; flagellomere II-VIII with medio-lateral swelling, weaker on last two flagellomeres (fig. 2); median frontal bulge not protruding below median ocellus in profile; tangential line between compound eyes as long as length of flagellomere V; coxae round, not flattened or flanged; hind face of hind femur flattened, slightly bowed; sternite II flat; sternite IV-VI not emarginate; aedeagus, fig. 3.

FEMALE.—About as in male except as follows: abdomen red; forewing stained dark brown, darker apically; clypeal bristles black; flagellomere II 3X as long as



Figs. 1-5, *Astata dominica* Pate: 1, head, male. 2, flagellomere, male. 3, apical portion of aedeagus. 4, 7th sternite, male. 5, dorsal view of propodeal enclosure, female.

broad; frons, vertex, scutum coarsely punctured; interocellar area with 80-90 pits; sternum, coxae densely clothed with recumbent setae.

SYSTEMATICS.—Both sexes of this species are easily separated from other known Western Hemisphere *Astata* by the transverse carinae on the dorsal propodeal enclosure. The males have peculiar lateral swellings on flagellomeres II-VIII; I have not observed this character in any other nearctic or neotropical *Astata*. In general appearance, *A. dominica* is very similar to *A. unicolor*, and they appear to be closely related.

In the uncurated collection at the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, I found 2 specimens of *A. dominica*. Pate (1947) stated that there was only a single female, but the specimens in the uncurated collection have the same label (printing and color of paper) as the holotype. Most likely all are from the same collection. Pate (op. cit.)

indicated that the specimen(s) were collected by M. Abbot Frazar in or about Sanchez in the Samana district.

MATERIAL EXAMINED.—2 males, 2 females from the following San Dominican localities: Constanza to Jarabacoa, August 1938, 2-4000 (Darlington); Guatmati, 1 July 1928 (H. E. Box); "San Domingo."

LITERATURE CITED

- CRESSON, E. T. 1865. On the Hymenoptera of Cuba. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Phila., 4: 1-241 (140-141).
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