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**A Revision of the *rhopalocerus* Species Group of *Bembecinus*  
Costa: An Addendum  
(Hymenoptera: Crabronidae: Bembicinae)**

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***Bembecinus priesneri* Schmid-Egger, 2004 is newly synonymized with *Bembecinus somalicus* (Arnold, 1940). The range of the *rhopalocerus* species group is extended north to Gebel Elba in southeastern Egypt.**

Herr Christian Schmid-Egger, in his e-mail of 30 April 2015, drew my attention to the fact that his species *Bembecinus priesneri* was probably a member of the *rhopalocerus* species group and that it was not treated in a recent revision of the group by F. Gess, W. Pulawski, and S. Gess (2015). He subsequently sent me the holotype of *priesneri*, a male, for examination. The study of this specimen (Fig. 1) as well as of a female from the California Academy of Sciences collection determined by him clearly demonstrated that *priesneri* is a junior synonym of *somalicus*. Both specimens show the characteristics of the *rhopalocerus* group as defined in the above publication (see p. 210, in key, 1b + 2b + 3a), as well as a unique color pattern of *somalicus*, and they otherwise fully agree with that species. This discovery results in two points:

1. The full synonymy of *Bembecinus somalicus* is as follows:

*Stizus quadristrigatus* race *somalicus* Arnold, 1940:116, ♀. Holotype: ♀, Somalia: Warderi, now Ethiopia: Warder (SAM).— **As *Bembecinus quadristrigatus somalicus***: R. Bohart and Menke, 1976:532 (new combination, new status, in checklist of world Sphecidae).— **As *Bembeci-***

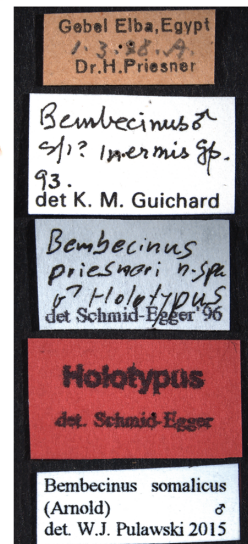


FIGURE 1. Holotype of *Bembecinus priesneri* Schmidt-Egger, 2004, and associated labels.

*nus somalicus*: F. Gess, W. Pulawski, and S. Gess, 2015:211, 213 (in key to *rhopalocerus* species group), 242 (new status, in revision of *rhopalocerus* species group).

*Stizus quadristrigatus* var. *dubiosus* Guiglia, 1941, 78, ♀. Holotype: ♀, Ethiopia: Gabredarre, now Kebri Dehar (MSNG). Synonymized with *Bembecinus somalicus* by Pulawski in F. Gess, W. Pulawski, and S. Gess, 2015:242.— **As *Bembecinus quadristrigatus dubiosus***: R. Bohart and Menke, 1976:531 (new combination, new status, in checklist of world Sphecidae).

*Bembecinus priesneri* Schmid-Egger, 2004b:19, ♀, ♂. Holotype: ♂, Egypt: Gebel Elba (coll. M. Schwarz, Ansfelden, Austria). **New synonym.**

2. The range of the *rhopalocerus* species group extends from the southern tip of Africa north to Gebel Elba in southeastern Egypt, not only to the Somalian Region of Ethiopia, as accepted by F. Gess, W. Pulawski, and S. Gess (2015).

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I sincerely thank Herr Christian Schmid-Egger for alerting me to the identity of *Bembecinus priesneri* and for a generous sending of several specimens of the *rhopalocerus* group for examination (including the holotype of *priesneri*).

#### REFERENCES

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