

## A NEW ENCYRTID PARASITIC IN THE EGGS OF HESPERIIDAE

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Specimens of an encyrtid reared from eggs of *Prenes* sp. in Puerto Rico, recently submitted for identification, appear to represent a new species.

### OEENCYRTUS PRENIDIS, new species

This new species is apparently most closely related to *Ooencyrtus latiscapus* Gahan but may be distinguished at once by the much narrower antennal scape of the female and by the wholly yellowish-testaceous legs. The color of the legs is similar to that of the legs of *submetallicus* (Howard) but the antennae are much shorter and more strongly clavate and the sculpture on frons and scutellum is shallower and less distinct.

*Female*.—Length 0.75 mm. Head as broad as thorax, rather deeply concave behind; fronto-vertex moderately narrow, the distance from upper end of scrobal depression to posterior margins of vertex equal to about one and one-half times the shortest distance between the eyes; frons and vertex with distinct but shallow reticulate-punctate sculpture; face and cheeks indistinctly sculptured, nearly smooth; ocelli in a slightly obtuse triangle; scrobal cavity triangular, nearly acute dorsally; mandibles with three very short, blunt teeth; eyes with very sparse, inconspicuous pile. Antenna relatively short, strongly clavate; scape slightly thickened medially, approximately four times as long as broad; pedicel nearly twice as long as broad and a little less than one-third the length of scape; funicle gradually thickening from base toward apex, each segment with an irregular whorl of hairs which are a little longer than the segments from which they originate; first funicular segment narrower than the pedicel and a little longer than broad; remaining segments about as long as broad; club indistinctly 3-segmented, nearly twice as broad as sixth funicular segment, elongate

ovate in outline, approximately as long as the four preceding funicular segments combined and clothed throughout with much shorter and finer hair than on the funicle.

Thorax only a little longer than broad, convex dorsally; pronotum very short, mostly concealed from above; mesoscutum much broader than long, weakly reticulated, and moderately clothed with short, brownish hairs; scutellum moderately convex, about as long as mesoscutum and with similar sculpture on basal two-thirds, the apical third smooth and shining, a pair of rather long, erect bristles at extreme apex and a few shorter hairs scattered over the basal sculptured portion; propodeum very short, smooth and shining; mesopleuron nearly smooth. Legs normal. Forewing a little less than two and a half times as long as broad, extending far beyond apex of abdomen; marginal vein slightly longer than broad and not quite so long as stigmal vein; postmarginal vein about as long as marginal, indistinct; discal cilia basad of the hairless streak distinctly sparser and coarser than those distad of it.

Abdomen much broader than long, subtriangular, as broad as thorax but much shorter, its surface without distinct sculpture; ovipositor not exerted.

Head and dorsum of thorax black with a distinct metallic luster, the mesoscutum usually with a slight greenish tinge, and the scutellum bronzy basally but with the smooth apical portion distinctly greenish; under side of thorax dark brownish; legs, including all coxae, yellowish testaceous; wing hyaline; tegulae concolorous with mesoscutum; abdomen brownish black. Antennal pedicel and segments 3-6 of the funicle more or less dark brownish; scape, first and second funicular segments, and club pale testaceous.

*Male*.—Length 0.75 mm. Less robust than the female: fronto-vertex broader than long; ocelli in a distinctly obtuse triangle; ocellular line approximately equal to half the diameter of a lateral ocellus; scrobal cavity rounded dorsally. Antenna long, not clavate; scape not thickened; pedicel about as broad as long; funicular segments all of about the same width as pedicel but longer, subequal to one another or increasing very slightly in length from first to last, the first segment about one and a half times as long as broad, the sixth sometimes a little more than twice as long as broad, each segment clothed with hairs which are somewhat longer than the segment bearing them; club about as long as two preceding segments combined and scarcely broader than funicle. Abdomen about as long as broad, rather sharply triangular. Antenna nearly uniformly pale yellowish,

the pedicel and base of scape more or less fuscous; head, thorax, and abdomen black dorsally with a distinct coppery tinge; underside of thorax brownish black; legs yellowish testaceous, the coxae, hind femora, and basal half of hind tibiae infuscated with brownish. Otherwise like the female.

*Type localities.*—Salinas and Quebradillas, Puerto Rico.

*Type.* — U. S. National Museum No. 56540.

Described from 18 females (1 holotype) and 8 males (1 allotype) reared from eggs of *Prenes* sp. on sugarcane at Salinas, Puerto Rico, by L. F. Martorell in June 1942; also 2 females and 2 males reared at Quebradillas, P. R., Oct. 20, 1938, from *Prenes* sp. eggs.