

RESEARCH NOTES

NEW HOST FOR PSEUDOPTEROMALUS CALANDRAE (HOWARD) (HYMENOPTERA:PTEROMALIDAE)¹ IN PUERTO RICO

The small, black, parasitic wasp *Pseudopteromalus calandrae* was first noted from Puerto Rico as *Pteromalus* by O. W. Barrett in 1905.² Wolcott,³ in "The Insects of Puerto Rico," in reference to Barrett's publication, wrote: "He recorded it as a common parasite of the rice weevil, *Calandra oryzae*." Wolcott reported the species as *Aplastomorpha* and, without further details, mentioned that its only subsequent record was from resting adults on the leaves of sugarcane at Salinas.

I found this parasitic wasp in Cayey, Puerto Rico on 4 to 6 February, 1991. It was attacking the cigarette beetle, *Lasioderma serricornis* (Fabricius), heavily infesting bone-shaped dog biscuits. In a

plastic bag holding about 50 biscuits, there was an average of 20 beetle bores per biscuit, and about 30 adults of the parasitic wasp in the bag. The biscuits were originally in a cardboard box. Evidently the wasp attack was insufficient to control the beetle.

The wasps were identified by E. E. Grisell, from the Systematic Entomology Laboratory, PSI, USDA, Beltsville, Maryland, on March 11, 1991. Their official reference is LOT 91-02467. The specimens are in my collection.

Jenaro Maldonado-Capriles
Ad-Honorem Professor in Entomology
Department of Crop Protection

¹Manuscript submitted to the Editorial Board 29 October 1992.

²Barrett, O. W. 1905. Annual report. Puerto Rico Agricultural Experiment Station for 1904, pp. 378-399. (Ann. Rept. Office Expt. Stations, June 30, 1904), Washington, D.C.

³Wolcott, G. N. 1948. The Insects of Puerto Rico. *J. Agric. Univ. P.R.* 32(1-4): 1-975.