New European species of Platygastrinae, with an updated list of Latvian species of Platygastrinae and Sceliotrachelinae (Hymenoptera: Platygastridae)

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Abstract: Three species new to science are described, namely *Platygaster multicostata* sp. nov. (Finland), *Synopeas samium* sp. nov. (Greece), and *Synopeas vikbergi* sp. nov. (Finland). 72 species of Platygastrinae and Sceliotrachelinae are listed from Latvia, 67 of which are new to the country. This is probably almost one third of the actual number of species really existing in Latvia.

Key words: Hymenoptera, Platygastridae, *Platygaster*, *Synopeas*, new species, new records, Europe, Latvia.

Introduction

Platygastrinae is a subfamily of tiny wasps, egg-larval or egg-pupal parasitoids of Cecidomyiidae (Diptera). The much smaller similar subfamily Sceliotrachelinae also attacks other insect hosts. In a batch of material of mostly Finnish platygastrids (and a few Mediterranean) kindly offered as a loan to me by Mr. Martti Koponen, some species new to science were present, described below.

Since 2006 I have collected platygastrids in Latvia to document this hitherto unexplored group in this geographical location.

Methods

I have mostly collected at few sites to which I had access in Jēkabpils region of E Latvia where it was possible to leave Malaise traps undisturbed, but they represent a wide range of landscape types (Jēkabpils: garden; Brodi: open grassland; Vīpe: undisturbed meadow; forests near Jēkabpils and Viesīte). The material was generally mounted with glue on card points, and examined and drawn by use of a Leitz-Wetzlar stereomicroscope (x64). For the relative measurements in the descriptions below a unit is used in which 1 = 17 µm. Type material of the new species is preserved in Zoological Museum in Helsinki, Finland (MZH). The Latvian material is collected by the author and currently preserved in author's personal collection.

Standard abbreviations used in the descriptions are A1-A10 – antennomeres 1-10, OOL – distance between lateral ocellus and eye, LOL – distance between lateral and anterior ocelli, and T1-T6 – tergites 1-6.

Descriptions of new taxa

***Platygaster multicostata* sp. nov.** (Figs 1-4)

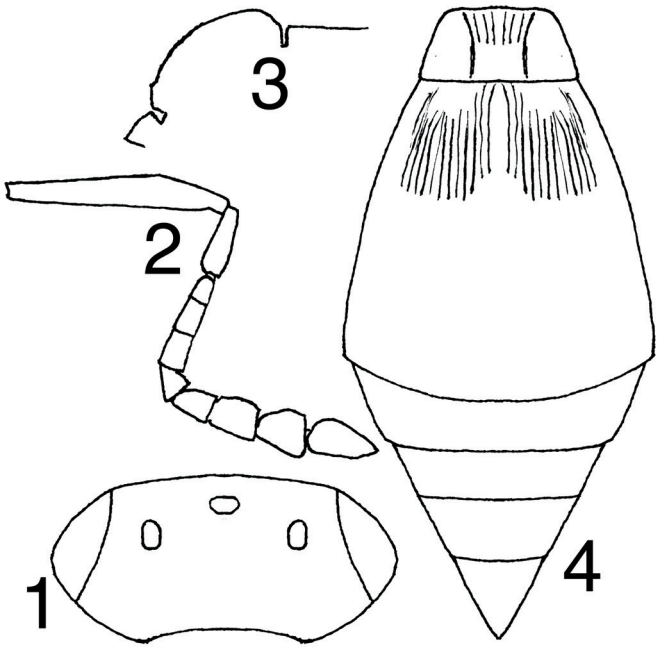
Holotype ♀ MZH: Finland, Satakunta region, Huittinen (6799:266), 30.05.1993, Martti Koponen.

Derivatio nominis: The name refers to the many distinct costae between the two large carinae on T1.

Diagnosis: Head 2.15 times as wide as long; occiput with fine oblique striation; female A4-A6 combined distinctly longer than A7-A8 combined; A9 1.2 times as long as wide; notauli complete; female metasoma 1.2 times as long as rest of body, T1 with two strong and six short carinae, T2 striated to 0.45 of length, medially shorter, T6 as long as wide.

Description: ♀. Body length 1.5 mm. Black; antennae, mandibles, tegulae and legs dark brown; most of fore legs, base of mid and hind tibiae, and segments 1-4 of all tarsi lighter brown. Head from above (Fig. 1) 2.15 times as wide as long, 1.1 times as wide as mesosoma; occiput with very fine oblique striae which medially meet in an acute angle pointed forwards, striation obscured by fine reticulate-coriaceous sculpture which becomes dominant towards sides; hyperoccipital carina absent but occiput antero-medially with a few weak transverse carinae behind ocellar area; vertex finely reticulate-coriaceous (not transversely so); frons finely but distinctly transversely striated, towards upper sides mixed with reticulation, with a smooth longitudinal medial impression. OOL = 1.15 LOL. Eyes bare. Head in frontal view 1.2 times as wide as high. Antenna (Fig. 2) with A1 0.8 times as long as height of head, hardly noticeable shorter than distance between inner orbits; A9 1.2 times as long as wide. Mesosoma 1.4 times as long as wide, 1.1 times as high as wide. Sides of pronotum dull reticulate-coriaceous (not longitudinally so), smooth in about lower half and along wide hind margin. Mesoscutum with very sparse, scattered setae, distinctly and almost uniformly reticulate-coriaceous (a few longitudinal elements postero-medially, and lateral lobes smoother just inside tegulae); notauli strong and complete, smooth; mid lobe ending in a fine point which nearly reaches base of scutellum, at each side with only about three inconspicuous setae over scuto-scutellar grooves. Mesopleuron smooth except for a few weak wrinkles just below tegulae. Scutellum (Fig. 3) evenly convex, above level of mesoscutum, with only few setae, most of them laterally, distinctly reticulate-coriaceous, along middle with longitudinal elements. Metapleuron dull, with moderately dense, adpressed pilosity almost all over. Propodeal carinae short, parallel; area between them transverse, smooth and shiny. Fore wing 0.8 times as long as entire body, overreaching metasoma by a distance equal to length of T6, 2.3 times as long as wide, faintly yellowish, in apical 0.55 with fine and dense microtrichia; marginal cilia very short. Hind wing 4.7 times as long as wide, with two hamuli; marginal cilia 0.15 width of wing. Metasoma (Fig. 4) 1.2 times as long as head and mesosoma combined, as wide as mesosoma. T1 with two strong longitudinal carinae over entire length, between them in anterior half with about six distinct longitudinal costae. T2 striated in basal foveae to 0.45 length of tergite, medially to about one-third, rest smooth. T3-T6 smooth, with setae inserted in shallow punctures (about 6 on T3, 10 on T4, 8 on each of T5-T6). T6 as long as wide.

Differential diagnosis: This new species differs from *P. singularis* Buhl, 2006 in having longer basal flagellar segments and in sculpture of head and T1. *P. multicostata* differs from *P. sagana* Walker, 1835 in having wider and more striated head, from *P. borealis* Buhl, 1998 in having more slender antennae, smoother mesosoma, more sculptured T1, and more pointed metasoma. *P. multicostata* differs from *P. eriphyle* Walker, 1835 in sculpture of head and in having more slender antennae.



Figures 1-4. *Platygaster multicostata* sp. nov. holotype female. 1 – head from above; 2 – antenna; 3 – scutellum and propodeum in lateral view; 4 – metasoma from above.

***Synopeas samium* sp. nov.** (Figs 5-8)

Holotype ♀ MZH: Greece, Samos, 12.10.1989, Martti Koponen.

Paratypes: 1♀ MZH, same data as in the holotype; 1♀ MZH, Samos, Oros Thios, 15.10.1989, Martti Koponen.

Derivatio nominis: Named after the island with the type localities.

Diagnosis: Female about 1 mm long, with LOL 1.33 times as long as OOL, A9 fully 1.1 times as long as wide; notauli visible to 0.7 of length; scutellum distinctly sloping in posterior half, with a short and thin tooth or no tooth at all; female metasoma about as long as rest of body, 1.4 times as wide as high, T3-T6 combined hardly shorter than T1-T2 combined, T6 about 1.4 times as long as wide.

Description: ♀. Body length 0.90-1.15 mm. Black; antennae, mandibles, tegulae and legs dark brown; A1 basally, A3, trochanters, base and apex of fore tibiae, basal half of mid and hind tibiae, and segments 1-4 of all tarsi light brownish. Head from above (Fig. 5) 1.9 times as wide as long, 1.2 times as wide as mesosoma, distinctly reticulate-coriaceous (not transversely so), without trace of a hyperoccipital carina. Frons with a longitudinal medial impression. LOL about one and a third times as long as OOL. Head in frontal view 1.15 times as wide as high. Antenna (Fig. 6) with A1 shorter than height of head (13:16), longer than distance between inner orbits (13:12); A9 fully 1.1 times as long as wide. Mesosoma 1.6 times as long as wide, 1.2 times as high as wide. Sides of pronotum distinctly reticulate-coriaceous (not longitudinally so) on most of upper two-thirds, smooth below and along hind margin. Mesoscutum with sparse, scattered setae, distinctly and almost uniformly reticulate-coriaceous; notauli weak, visible in posterior 0.7, fading out anteriorly, meeting in a fine point at hind margin, here at each side with about six long setae over the rather wide scuto-scutellar grooves. Mesopleuron smooth.

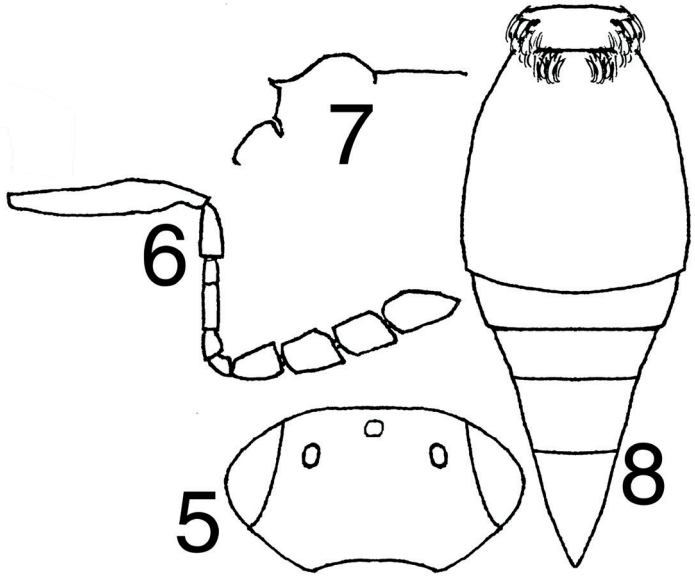
Scutellum (Fig. 7) with very sparse setae, much weaker sculptured than mesoscutum, without a carina, posteriorly with a small dark tooth with a narrow lamella below its base (on the smallest specimen only with a lamella, no tooth). Metapleuron smooth, with very few pilae in anterior 0.6, with a denser white fringe only along lower and hind margins. Propodeal carinae low, slightly translucent, very close together but separate. Fore wing 0.75 times as long as entire body, overreaching tip of metasoma by a distance hardly as long as length of T6, 2.5 times as long as wide, clear, with fine and dense microtrichia, without marginal cilia. Hind wing 5.4 times as long as wide; marginal cilia 0.25 width of wing. Metasoma (Fig. 8) 0.95-1.05 times as long as head and mesosoma combined, about as wide as mesosoma, 1.4 times as wide as high. T1-T2 smooth except for weak reticulation postero-laterally on T2. T3-T6 reticulate, on T4 only basally, on T5 only laterally, on T6 longitudinally so. T4-T6 with setae in shallow punctures: 6 on T4, about 10 more scattered on each of T5-T6.

Differential diagnosis: Generally similar to *S. gastralis* Buhl, 2001 from Spain, but that species has shorter OOL, notauli and apical segments of antennae (length of A4-A7 combined equal to A8-A10 combined in *S. gastralis*, whereas A8-A10 combined are fully 1.2 times as long as A4-A7 combined in *S. samium*). Scutellum of *S. samium* is more convex and with a distinctly thinner scutellar tooth than in *S. gastralis* (in the smallest specimen of *S. samium* which is of equal size to the holotype of *S. gastralis* and thus best comparable to that, the scutellar tooth is even absent).

***Synopeas vikbergi* sp. nov.** (Figs 9-13)
Holotype ♀ MZH: Finland, Uusimaa region, Nurmijärvi (6705:378), 24.07.1992, Martti Koponen.
Paratype: 1♂ MZH, same data as in the holotype.

Derivatio nominis: Patronymic. Named after the prominent Finnish hymenopterist Veli Vikberg.

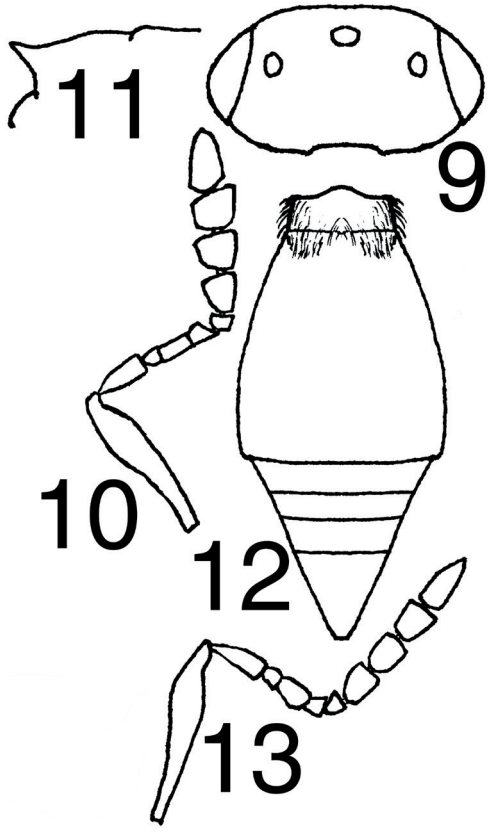
Diagnosis: Hardly 1 mm long, with head fully twice as wide as long, without hyperoccipital carina; female A4 fully twice



Figures 5-8. *Synopeas samium* sp. nov. holotype female. 5 – head from above; 6 – antenna; 7 – scutellum and propodeum in lateral view; 8 – metasoma from above.

as long as A3, A7 about three times as long as A6, fully as long as A8; A9 1.4 times as wide as long; notauli only weakly indicated posteriorly; scutellum very slightly below level of mesoscutum; tooth in lateral view pale and broadly triangular, about 0.3 as long as anterior part of scutellum; female metasoma nearly as long as rest of body, 1.45 times as wide as high, T3-T6 with distinct microsculpture, T6 about as long as wide.

Description: ♀. Body length 0.90 mm. Black, antennae and legs including coxae dark brown, the following parts pale brownish: mandibles, entire fore legs (except coxae), mid and hind trochanters, about basal 0.6 of mid and hind tibiae, and entire tarsi except darkened tip. Head from above (Fig. 9) fully twice as wide as long, wider than mesosoma (16:13), distinctly reticulate-coriaceous with larger meshes on occiput than on rest of head, only with transverse elements on frons; hyperoccipital carina absent but head somewhat angled behind ocelli. LOL about twice as long as OOL. Head in frontal view wider than high (16:13). Antenna (Fig. 10) with A1 0.75 times as long as height of head, A9 1.4 times as wide as long. Mesosoma 1.6 times as long as wide, 1.2 times as high as wide. Sides of pronotum in upper half reticulate-coriaceous (not longitudinally so), smooth in lower half and along hind margin, in upper half evenly and moderately densely setose. Mesoscutum towards sides with sparse, adpressed setae, very few around middle, finely and rather uniformly reticulate-coriaceous; notauli weakly indicated posteriorly, converging to a fine point which is slightly prolonged to base of scutellum, at each side with about eight golden setae over each rather narrow scuto-scutellar groove. Mesopleuron smooth. Scutellum (Fig. 11) along middle smooth, sparsely setose, without a carina, towards sides densely setose, behind with a distinct tooth which in dorsal view is thin and only pale at apex, in lateral view broadly triangular and light brownish. Metapleuron smooth, bare in about anterior 0.3, over most of surface with only sparse, long pilae, with dense pilosity only along hind margin. Propodeal carinae low, fused, dark, straight. Fore wing 0.8 times as long as entire body, overreaching tip of metasoma by a distance equal to length of T5-T6 combined, 2.5 times as long as wide, almost clear, with fine and dense microtrichia; marginal cilia 0.06 width of wing. Hind wing 6.3 times as long as



Figures 9-13. *Synopeas vikbergi* sp. nov. 9 – head from above; 10 – female antenna; 11 – female scutellum and propodeum in lateral view; 12 – female metasoma from above; 13 – male antenna.

wide; marginal cilia half as long as width of wing. Metasoma (Fig. 12) 0.95 times as long as head and mesosoma combined, 0.9 times as wide as mesosoma, 1.45 times as wide as high. T1 without noticeable carinae. T2 smooth except for reticulation along narrow hind margin. T3-T6 with distinct reticulate microsculpture, with a few inconspicuous setae. T6 about as long as wide.

♂. Body length 0.80 mm. Antenna (Fig. 13) with A1-A6 yellowish brown, A9 hardly 1.2 times as long as wide, flagellar pubescence very short. Scutellar tooth smaller than in female. Fore wing 0.95 times as long as entire body, marginal cilia about 0.1 width of wing. Metasoma as long as mesosoma.

Differential diagnosis: Close to *S. evanescens* Buhl, 2010 and *S. ronquisti* Buhl, 2010, but with a more transverse head, relatively longer female A7, and a more pointed female metasoma with stronger sculptured apical tergites, see also Buhl (2010b). The somewhat similar *S. melampus* Förster, 1861 has female A3-A5 almost equal, each hardly longer than wide, and mesosoma twice as long as wide.

Commented list of Latvian species of Platygastrinae and Sceliotrachelinae

In the list of 72 Latvian species below, references are given to my earlier published records (see bibliographical references in the list) of five species. The rest of the species are new to Latvia. All specimens listed were collected by P.N.Buhl.

Acerotella evanescens (Kieffer, 1914)
Material: 1♂, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 12.05-23.06.2007, Malaise trap.

Amblyaspis angustula (Thomson, 1859)
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 22.06-08.07.2006, Malaise trap.

Amblyaspis roboris (Haliday, 1835)
Material: 1♂, Vīpe, 01.08-07.11.2009, Malaise trap in meadow; 1♀, 6 km E of Jēkabpils, 26.08-08.10.2006, Malaise trap in forest; 1♂, 15 km W of Jēkabpils, Riesti house, 22.06-31.08.2007, Malaise trap in forest; 1♂, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 23.06-30.08.2007, Malaise trap.

Amblyaspis scelionoides (Haliday, 1835)
Material: 2♀, 6 km E of Jēkabpils, 30.07-26.08.2006, Malaise trap in forest; 1♀, 9 km W of Viesīte, Zakeri house, 08.08-08.11.2009, Malaise trap in forest; 1♀, Sarmas 10 km N of Iecava, 27.08.2010, swept.

Anopedias notaulatus Buhl, 2005
Material: 1♂, Pokaiņu mežs, 19.05.2013, swept.

Ceratacis cochleata (Walker, 1835)
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 16.06-07.07.2006, Malaise trap in garden; 1♀, 9 km W of Viesīte, 23.06-27.07.2006, Malaise trap in marshy forest.

Euxestonotus error (Fitch, 1861)
Material: 1♀, Vīpe, 27.06-01.08.2009, Malaise trap in meadow.

Euxestonotus hasselbalchi Buhl, 1995
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 13.05-22.06.2006, Malaise trap.

Inostemma boscii (Jurine, 1807) sensu Kozlov
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 13.05-22.06.2006, Malaise trap.

Inostemma reticulatum Szelényi, 1938
Material: 1♀, Vīpe, 01.08-07.11.2009, Malaise trap in meadow.

Inostemma walkeri Kieffer, 1914
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi,

Āres house, 08-29.07.2006, Malaise trap.

Iphitrachelus gracilis Masner, 1957
Material: 1♂, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 23.06-30.08.2007, Malaise trap; 2♀, 1.5 km W of Jēkabpils, 28.05-09.2012, Malaise trap in forest; 1♀, 9 km W of Viesīte, Zakeri house, 25.06-08.08.2009, Malaise trap in forest; 1♂, Sarmas 10 km N of Iecava, 27.08.2010, swept.

Iphitrachelus lar Haliday, 1835
Material: 1♂, 15 km W of Jēkabpils, Riesti house, 22.06-31.08.2007, Malaise trap in forest.

Isocybus sp.
Material: 1♂, Jēkabpils, 16.06-07.07.2006, Malaise trap in garden.

Isostasius inserens (Kirby, 1800)
Material: 3♀, Vīpe, 27.06-01.08.2009, Malaise trap in meadow.

Leptacis ariadne Buhl, 1999
Material: 3♀, 9 km W of Viesīte, Zakeri house, 08.08-08.11.2009, Malaise trap in forest.

Leptacis nydia (Walker, 1835)
Material: 1♀, 6 km E of Jēkabpils, 30.07-26.08.2006, Malaise trap in forest.

Leptacis orchymonti (Debauche, 1947)
Material: 1♀, 6 km E of Jēkabpils, 26.08-08.10.2006, Malaise trap in forest.

Leptacis ozines (Walker, 1835)
Material: 1♂, 15 km W of Jēkabpils, Riesti house, 22.06-31.08.2007, Malaise trap in forest; 1♀, 1.5 km W of Jēkabpils, 08-09.2012, Malaise trap in forest.

Leptacis tipulae (Kirby, 1798)
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 08-29.07.2006, Malaise trap.

Leptacis vlugi Buhl, 1997
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 25.08-08.10.2006, Malaise trap in garden; 1♀, 6 km E of Jēkabpils, 30.07-26.08.2006, Malaise trap in forest; 1♂, 9 km W of Viesīte, Zakeri house, 08.08-08.11.2009, Malaise trap in forest.

Metanopedias lasiopterae (Kieffer, 1916)
Material: 1♂, Jēkabpils, 25.08-08.10.2006, Malaise trap in garden.

Piestopleura garridoi Buhl, 2001
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 25.08-08.10.2006, Malaise trap in garden; 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 25.08-23.09.2006, Malaise trap.

Piestopleura seron (Walker, 1835)
Material: 3♀, 1♂, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 22.06-29.07.2006, Malaise trap.

Platygaster abrupta Buhl, 1994
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 25.08-08.10.2006, Malaise trap in garden; 4♀, 2♂, 6 km E of Jēkabpils, 26.08-08.10.2006, Malaise trap in forest; 1♀, 9 km W of Viesīte, Zakeri house, 08.08-08.11.2009, Malaise trap in forest.

Platygaster acrisius Walker, 1835
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 08-29.07.2006, Malaise trap.

Platygaster aegeus Walker, 1835
Material: 1♀, Vīpe, 01.08-07.11.2009, Malaise trap in meadow; 1♀, 9 km W of Viesīte, Zakeri house, 08.08-08.11.2009, Malaise trap in forest.

Platygaster anopediana Buhl, 2005
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 16.06-07.07.2006, Malaise trap in garden.

Platygaster athamas Walker, 1835
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 08-29.07.2006, Malaise trap; 1♀, 9 km W of Viesīte, 23.06-27.07.2006, Malaise trap in marshy forest.

Platygaster chloropus Thomson, 1859
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 22.06-08.07.2006, Malaise trap.

Platygaster compressicornis (Thomson, 1859)
Material: 1♀, 9 km W of Viesīte, 23.06-27.07.2006, Malaise trap in marshy forest.

Platygaster ennius Walker, 1835
Material: 1♀, 9 km W of Viesīte, 23.06-27.07.2006, Malaise trap in marshy forest.

Platygaster eriphyle Walker, 1835
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 12.05-23.06.2007, Malaise trap.

Platygaster euhemerus Walker, 1835
Material: 8♀, Sarmas 10 km N of Iecava, 25.05.2012, swept.

Platygaster fennica Buhl, 2003
Material: 1♀, Vīpe, 01.08-07.11.2009, Malaise trap in meadow.

Platygaster gracilipes Huggert, 1975
Material: 2♀, 6 km E of Jēkabpils, 30.07-26.08.2006, Malaise trap in forest; 2♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 12.05-23.06.2007, Malaise trap; 1♀, 9 km W of Viesīte, Zakeri house, 25.06-08.08.2009, Malaise trap in forest; 1♀, 1.5 km W of Jēkabpils, 28.05-26.06.2012, Malaise trap in forest.

Platygaster lamelliformis Huggert, 1973
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 13.05-22.06.2006, Malaise trap.

Platygaster leptines Walker, 1835
Material: 2♂, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 12.05-23.06.2007, Malaise trap.

Platygaster lyneborgi Buhl, 1998
Material: 1♀, Vīpe, 01.08-07.11.2009, Malaise trap in meadow.

Platygaster marginata Thomson, 1859
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 13.05-22.06.2006, Malaise trap.

Platygaster martti Buhl, 2003
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 13.05-22.06.2006, Malaise trap.

Platygaster masneri Huggert, 1975
Material: 2♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 12.05-23.06.2007, Malaise trap.

Platygaster micromma Buhl, 2010
Bibliography: Buhl (2010a).

Platygaster microsculpturata Buhl, 1999
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 25.08-08.10.2006, Malaise trap in garden; 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 25.08-23.09.2006, Malaise trap.

Platygaster nisus Walker, 1835
Material: 1♀, 15 km W of Jēkabpils, Riesti house, 22.06-31.08.2007, Malaise trap in forest; 3♀, Vīpe, 01.08-07.11.2009, Malaise trap in meadow; 1♀, 9 km W of Viesīte, Zakeri house, 08.08-08.11.2009, Malaise trap in forest; 1♀, Sarmas 10 km N of Iecava, 27.08.2010, swept.

Platygaster oebalus Walker, 1835
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 13.05-22.06.2006, Malaise trap.

Platygaster oscus Walker, 1835
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 25.08-08.10.2006, Malaise trap in garden.

Platygaster otanes Walker, 1835
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 13.05-22.06.2006, Malaise trap; 1♀, Pokaiņu mežs, 19.05.2013, swept.

Platygaster pedasus Walker, 1835
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 22.06-08.07.2006, Malaise trap.

Platygaster pelias Walker, 1835
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 22.06-08.07.2006, Malaise trap.

Platygaster rutilipes Buhl, 1997
Material: 2♀, Jēkabpils, 25.08-08.10.2006, Malaise trap in garden; 1♀, 1.5 km W of Jēkabpils, 08-09.2012, Malaise trap in forest.

Platygaster rutubus Walker, 1835
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 13.05-22.06.2006, Malaise trap; 1♀, Jēkabpils, 16.06-07.07.2006, Malaise trap in garden; 1♀, 1.5 km W of Jēkabpils, 28.05-26.06.2012, Malaise trap in forest.

Platygaster vaenia Walker, 1835
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 12.05-23.06.2007, Malaise trap.

Platygaster zigrida Buhl, 2010
Bibliography: Buhl (2010a).

Prosynopeas hybridum (Buhl, 1994)
Material: 1♂, Jēkabpils, summer 2012, Malaise trap in garden (Fig. 14).

Synopeas bohemani Buhl, 1998
Material: 1♀, 9 km W of Viesīte, 23.06-27.07.2006, Malaise trap in marshy forest; 1♀, 1.5 km W of Jēkabpils, 08-09.2012, Malaise trap in forest.

Synopeas breve Buhl, 1998
Material: 2♀, 15 km W of Jēkabpils, Riesti house, 22.06-31.08.2007, Malaise trap in forest.

Synopeas ciliatum Thomson, 1859
Material: 1♀, 6 km E of Jēkabpils, 30.07-26.08.2006, Malaise trap in forest; 1♀, 9 km W of Viesīte, Zakeri house, 08.08-08.11.2009, Malaise trap in forest.

Synopeas craterus (Walker, 1835)
Material: 1♂, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 08-29.07.2006, Malaise trap; 2♀, same data but 29.07-25.08.2006; 1♀, same data but 25.08-23.09.2006; 2♀, 9 km W of Viesīte, Zakeri house, 25.06-08.08.2009, Malaise trap in forest; 2♀, 1♂, Vīpe, 01.08-07.11.2009, Malaise trap in meadow.

Synopeas curvicauda (Förster, 1856)
Material: 5♀, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 08.07-25.08.2006, Malaise trap; 1♀, Vīpe, 01.08-07.11.2009, Malaise trap in meadow.

Synopeas euryale (Walker, 1835)
Material: 1♀, 6 km E of Jēkabpils, 30.07-26.08.2006, Malaise trap in forest; 1♀, Vīpe, 27.06-01.08.2009, Malaise trap in meadow.

Synopeas fungorum Buhl, 2000
Material: 2♀, 6 km E of Jēkabpils, 30.07-26.08.2006, Malaise trap in forest; 1♀, 15 km W of Jēkabpils, Riesti house, 22.06-31.08.2007, Malaise trap in forest.

Synopeas hyllus (Walker, 1835)
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 25.08-08.10.2006, Malaise trap in garden.

Synopeas inerme Thomson, 1859
Material: 1♀, Jēkabpils, 25.08-08.10.2006, Malaise trap in garden.

Synopeas larides (Walker, 1835)
Bibliography: Buhl (2010b).
Material: 1♀, 1.5 km W of Jēkabpils,

28.05-26.06.2012, Malaise trap in forest.

Synopeas latvianum Buhl, 2009
Bibliography: Buhl (2009).

Synopeas pinnei Buhl, 2009
Bibliography: Buhl (2009).

Synopeas rhanis (Walker, 1835)
Material: 5♀, 1 ♂, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 08-29.07.2006, Malaise trap; 5♀, Vīpe, 01.08-07.11.2009, Malaise trap in meadow.

Synopeas sosis (Walker, 1835)
Material: 2♂, Jēkabpils, 1 km S of Brodi, Āres house, 12.05-23.06.2007, Malaise trap.

Synopeas ventrale (Westwood, 1833)
Material: 2♀, Jēkabpils, 16.06-07.07.2006, Malaise trap in garden.

Synopeas wangsjoi Buhl, 2009
Material: 1♀, 9 km W of Viesīte, Zakeri house, 08.08-08.11.2009, Malaise trap in forest.

Trichacis sp.
Material: 4♀, 1.5 km W of Jēkabpils, 28.05-26.06.2012, Malaise trap in forest.

Discussion

Three species new to science described above represent the common problem in Platygastrinae that only very few specimens of each species are known. Two of them are rather distinct, but the close similarity of *Synopeas samium* to Spanish *S. gastralis* illustrates the value of having several specimens (of different size) at hand to draw a limit between species. At present it is difficult to describe further European species due to lack of material of rare species and missing or unrevised old types. But in many countries even the common species are undocumented.

With about 250 described species of Platygastridae and Sceliotrachelinae known from the Scandinavian countries (about 215 from Denmark), and slightly more than 520 from entire Europe (Fauna Europaea), the number from Latvia should easily exceed 200 after a more throughout investigation. A few species new to science have already been described from Latvia (Buhl 2009, 2010a), and probably several more will appear in the future. I have many species in my collection which could be determined to genus only, as is often the case in this poorly investigated group. However, the vast majority of species from Latvia are also known from neighbouring countries, cf. also the incomplete list of Estonian species by Buhl & Koponen (2004). The most surprising record in the list above is *Piestopleura garridoi* which was earlier known only from central Spain. But numerous platygastrid species are known to occur over most of the Palaearctic region, a few are even Holarctic or wider distributed.

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Figure 14. Eastern Latvia, Jēkabpils, summer 2012, Malaise trap installation in garden (to the left against the wall).

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