

# Descriptions of New Chalcid Flies (Hym., Chalcidoidea, Encyrtidae and Eulophidae) Reared from *Nepticula* Species Collected in Sri Lanka

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## Abstract

HEDQVIST, K.-J. Descriptions of new chalcid flies (Hym., Chalcidoidea, Encyrtidae and Eulophidae) reared from *Nepticula* species collected in Sri Lanka. — Ent. Tidskr. 97: 50—54, 1976.

The author describes two new Eulophid genera: *Sarasvatia* gen.n. with the type species

*S. srilankiensis* sp.n. and *Visnuella* gen.n. with the type species *V. nepticulae* sp.n. He also describes a new species of the genus *Parablastothrix* Merc., *P. nepticulae* sp.n. All the new species are reared from *Nepticula* sp. collected in Sri Lanka.

During a visit to Sri Lanka in 1973 Mr Bert Gustafsson, Swedish Museum of Natural History, Stockholm, collected some larvae of *Nepticula* (Lep., Nepticulidae) in mines. From that material he also reared some chalcid flies, which he kindly presented to me for determination. A study revealed that the specimens belonged to three new species for which two new genera had to be created. One of the new species belongs to *Parablastothrix* Merc.

## *Parablastothrix nepticulae* sp.n.

♂. Emerald-green with scape white, the rest of antenna greyish white. Mandibles pale reddish brown; legs white with the base of mid and hind coxae green and claw joints brown. Tegula white and wing veins very pale brown.

Head (Fig. 1 A) reticulated. Lateral ocelli near the compound eye with the space between as long as the diameter of an ocellus. Mandibles tridentate. Antenna (Fig. 1 B), 1161, inserted near the base of clypeus, funicle joints 1—4 ramose, joint 5 twice as

long as joint 6. Thorax and head similarly reticulated. Gaster short with styli at the middle of gaster with one of the stylian setae as long as half gaster. Mid tibia with strong spur, nearly half the length of hind tibia.

Fore wing see Fig. 1 C.

♀. Unknown.

Length: 1.0 mm.

**Holotype:** In coll. mea, Sri Lanka, Minneriya Tank, collected 20.II.1973, emerged 8.III.1973, leg B. Gustafsson.

**Host:** *Nepticula ipomoella* Gust.

*P. nepticulae* sp.n. differs from *P. vespertinus* Merc., the type species of *Parablastothrix*, by distinct reticulation on head and thorax not being alutaceous to coriaceous (shagreened according to Mercet 1921) as in *P. vespertinus*; the ramose funicle joints are short, joints 1—3 equal in length (in *P. vespertinus* of different length) and colour is different.

## *Sarasvatia* gen.n.

Eyes with ventral facets larger than dorsal, inner orbits slightly sinuate. Frontal fork Y-

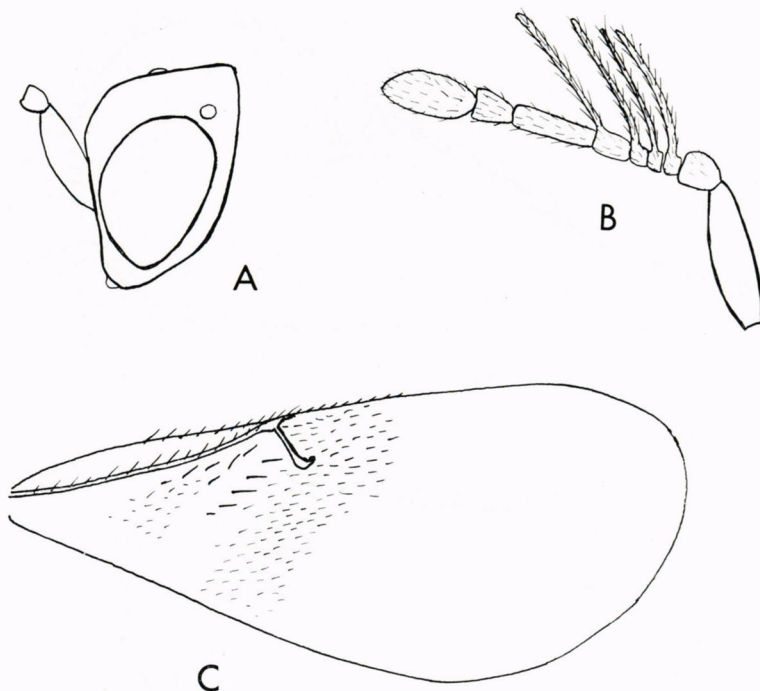


Fig. 1. *Parablastrothrix nepticulae* sp. n. ♂. A. Head in lateral view. B. Antenna. C. Fore wing (hairs partly omitted).

shaped. Malar space short, a little longer than the base of a mandible. Mandibles with 2+2 teeth. Antenna (Fig. 2 B), 1115, inserted near the base of clypeus. Pronotum with rounded collar. Notaulices distinct and intercept outside inner angles of axillae. Propodeum smooth with small circular spiracles. Petiole smooth and pyriform. Gaster subcircular to oval. Fore wing (Fig. 2 A) with stigmal vein long, radial cell distinct, bare.

Type species: *Sarasvatia srilankiensis* sp.n.

### ***Sarasvatia srilankiensis* sp.n.**

♀. Blue with tint of green and violet on face. Antenna dirty yellowish white with antennal scape paler. Legs except base of hind coxae white; base of hind coxae blue and claw joints black. Tegulae and area round the wing base yellow. Wing veins ash grey with a suffusion below stigmal vein. Clypeus with straight anterior margin.

♂. Unknown.

Length: 0.9—1.1 mm.

Holotype: In coll. mea, Sri Lanka, Ibbehgamuwa, 20.II.1973, leg. B. Gustafsson.

Paratypes: 3 ♀ in coll. mea from the same locality and date.

One of the paratypes has more narrow fore wings (Fig. 2 C) but it is undoubtedly the same species.

*Sarasvatia* gen.n. is near related to *Desmatocharis* Grah. but antennae are different, propodeum has no median carina or plica and petiole is pyriform without a raised and reticulated, subquadrate posterior portion. The new genus is named after the wife (Sarasvat) of the God Visnu in India.

### ***Visnuella* gen.n.**

Head (Fig. 3 C) large, semiglobular, with eyes hairy. Antennae (Fig. 3 B), 1133, inserted on a level with anterior margin of eyes; OOL longer than POL. Occiput not with margin. Pronotal collar with a sharp

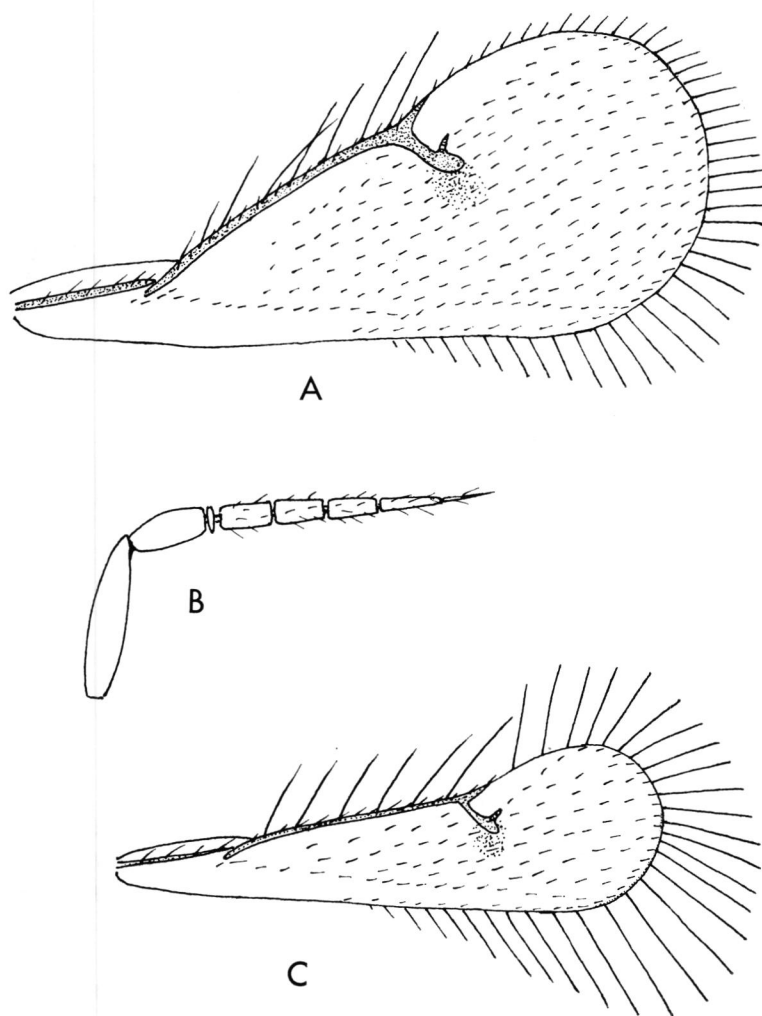


Fig. 2. *Sarasvatia sri-lankiensis* gen.n., sp.n.  
♀. A Fore wing. B. Antenna. C. Fore wing.

margin (Fig. 3 A). Notauli strong. Scutellum large, as long as pro- and mesonotum together and with a median furrow (Fig. 3 A). Mesonotum with 4 and scutellum with 2 strong setae (Fig. 3 A). Prepectus large. Propodeum (Fig. 3 A) smooth without median carina but with plicae. Gastral petiole (Fig. 3 A) longer than wide. Gaster short ovate. Fore wing (Fig. 3 D) with very long marginal vein, stigmal vein short and postmarginal vein twice as long as stigmal vein.

Type species: *Visnuella nepticulae* sp.n.

### ***Visnuella nepticulae* sp.n.**

♀. Blue with greenish tint. Antennal scape and legs white with basal part of mid and hind coxae blue. Wing vein hyaline.

Head wider than thorax, finely reticulated. Thorax with fine reticulation, on scutellum fading out (see Fig. 3 A). Axillae also smooth. Dorsellum and propodeum smooth. Gastral petiole with fine punctures. Fore wing (Fig. 3 D) with apical margin subtruncate and on lower surface below marginal vein with adherent hairs.

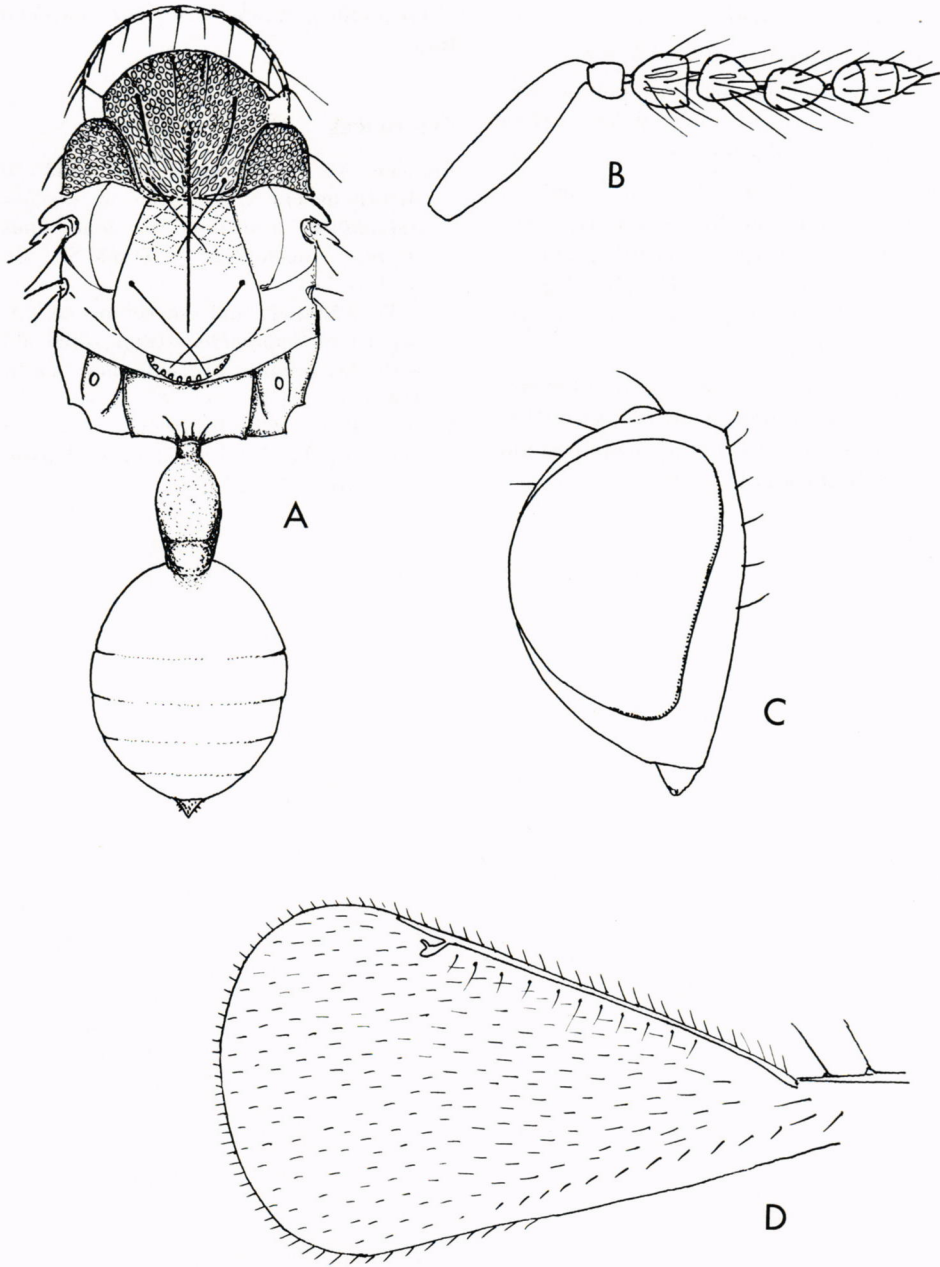


Fig. 3. *Visnuella nepticulae* gen.n, sp.n. ♀. A. Thorax and gaster. B. Antenna. C. Head in lateral view. D. Fore wing.

♂. Similar to the female.

Length: ♀ 1.1 mm; ♂ 1.0—1.1 mm.

Holotype: In coll. mea, Sri Lanka, Minneriya Tank, collected 20.II.1973, emerged 10.III.1973, leg. B. Gustafsson.

Paratypes: In coll. mea, 1 ♂ + 2 ♂ (defect), 2 ♂ from the same locality as holotype, collected 20.II.1973, emerged 8.III.1973, and 1 ♂ Sri Lanka, Ratnapura, 24.II.1973, leg. B. Gustafsson. All specimens reared from *Neptacula ipomoella* Gst.

*Visnuella* gen.n. is similar to *Chrysocharis* Först. but puncturation is different and *Visnuella* has a median furrow on scutellum and propodeum is different.

*Visnuella* is named after the God Visnu in India.

## References

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