

SUBFAMILY METEORIDEINAE

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INTRODUCTION. Meteorideinae is a small subfamily with two genera, *Meteoridea* Ashmead, 1900 and *Pronkia* van Achterberg, 1990. Only *Meteoridea* is found in the New World. Van Achterberg (1990) proposed the genus *Pronkia*, and presented a key to separate members of *Pronkia* from those of *Meteoridea*. Yu et al. (2016) cataloged the world species of *Meteoridea*.

PHYLOGENY. Sharanowski et al. (2011) found a sister-group relationship between *Meteoridea* and the Sigalphoid + Microgastroid clade.

BIOLOGY. Members are known to be larval-pupal endoparasitoids of lepidopterous larva. Eggs are laid into the host larva and the adult parasitoid emerges from the pupal stage of the host. The largest collections of *Meteoridea* (Canadian National Collection) have been taken from light traps, suggesting that at least some species are nocturnal.

COMMON GENERA. None.

DISTRIBUTION. Cosmopolitan. No species has yet been described from the Neotropical region, but the Canadian National Collection has a number of undescribed species from the Neotropics.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES. Meteorideines can be recognized by the following combination of characters: hind wing with vein Cub present although often very small and difficult to see; forewing with second submarginal cell quadrate; terminal segments of metasoma laterally compressed; ovipositor very small, barely (if at all) exerted from the apex of the metasoma.

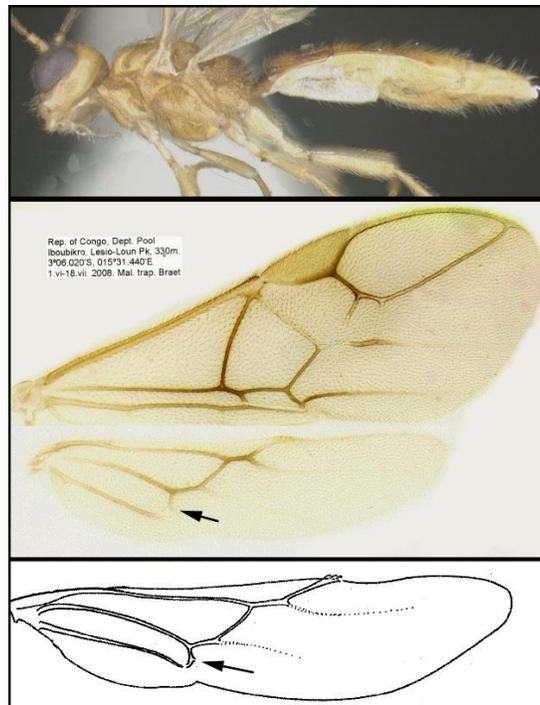


Figure 1. *Meteoridea* sp.

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