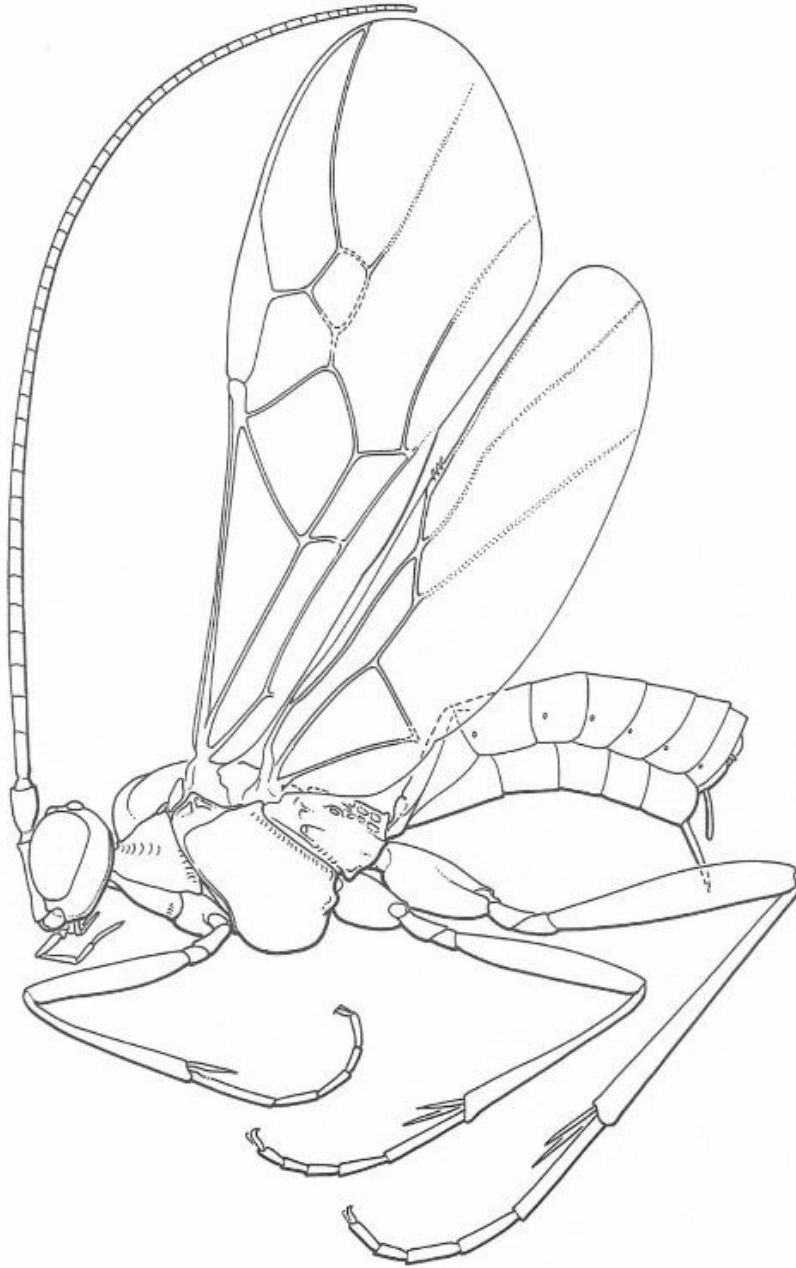


## SUBFAMILY HOMOLOBINAE

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**INTRODUCTION.** Homolobinae is a small subfamily containing three genera of which two occur in the New World. The world fauna were revised by van Achterberg (1979).

**PHYLOGENY.** Sharanowski et al. (2011) found a sister-group relationship between Homolobinae and Microtypinae.

**BIOLOGY.** Homolobines are solitary, koinobiont endoparasitoids of Lepidoptera. Rearing records are reviewed by van Achterberg (1979). Ovipositors are short and notched in New World genera and are thought to be used against exposed, nocturnally feeding hosts.

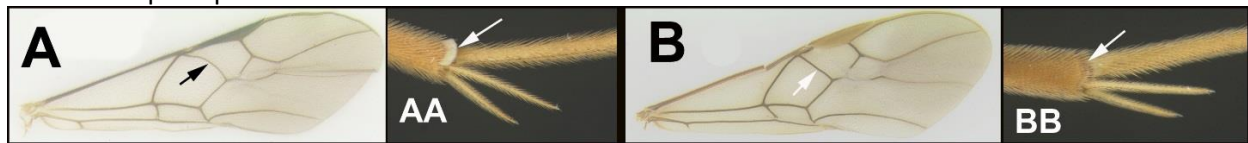
**COMMON GENERA.** *Homolobus truncator* (Say), often recorded in the North American literature as *Zelee mellea* (Cresson) prior to van Achterberg's (1979) revision, is particularly widespread and abundant throughout North and Central America.

**DISTRIBUTION.** Cosmopolitan with several very widespread species.

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES.** *Homolobus* and *Exasticolus* resemble some of the large macrocentrines (such as *Austrozele*) in overall size and shape, and in the presence of long tibial spurs, but have a well-developed occipital carina (absent in macrocentrines). The occipital carina and antescutal depression, in combination with the presence of r-m in the fore wing and a square to rectangular second submarginal cell, can be used to separate *Homolobus* and *Exasticolus* from all other New World, non-cyclostome Braconidae.

#### KEY TO THE NEW WORLD GENERA OF THE SUBFAMILY HOMOLOBINAE

- I. **A.** Fore wing (RS+ M)a curved. **AA.** Inner side of hind basitarsus with apical comb..... *Exasticolus*  
- **B.** Fore wing vein (RS+ M)a straight or weakly sinuate. **BB.** Inner side of hind tibia without a well-developed apical comb. .... *Homolobus*



## GENERIC TREATMENTS

### *Exasticolus* van Achterberg, 1979

**Diagnosis.** Fore wing (RS+ M)a curved. Inner side of hind basitarsus with apical comb.

**Biology.** *E. fuscicornis* has been reared from Geometridae and Noctuidae (Penteado-Dias et al., 2006). *E. nigriceps* has been reared from Lasiocampidae (van Achterberg, 1979).

**Diversity.** There are six described species and probably a dozen or so undescribed.

**Distribution.** Nearctic and Neotropical, Canada to Argentina.

**Publications.** Van Achterberg (1979) revised the genus. López-Martínez et al. (2011) described a new species from Mexico and provided the most recent key to species.

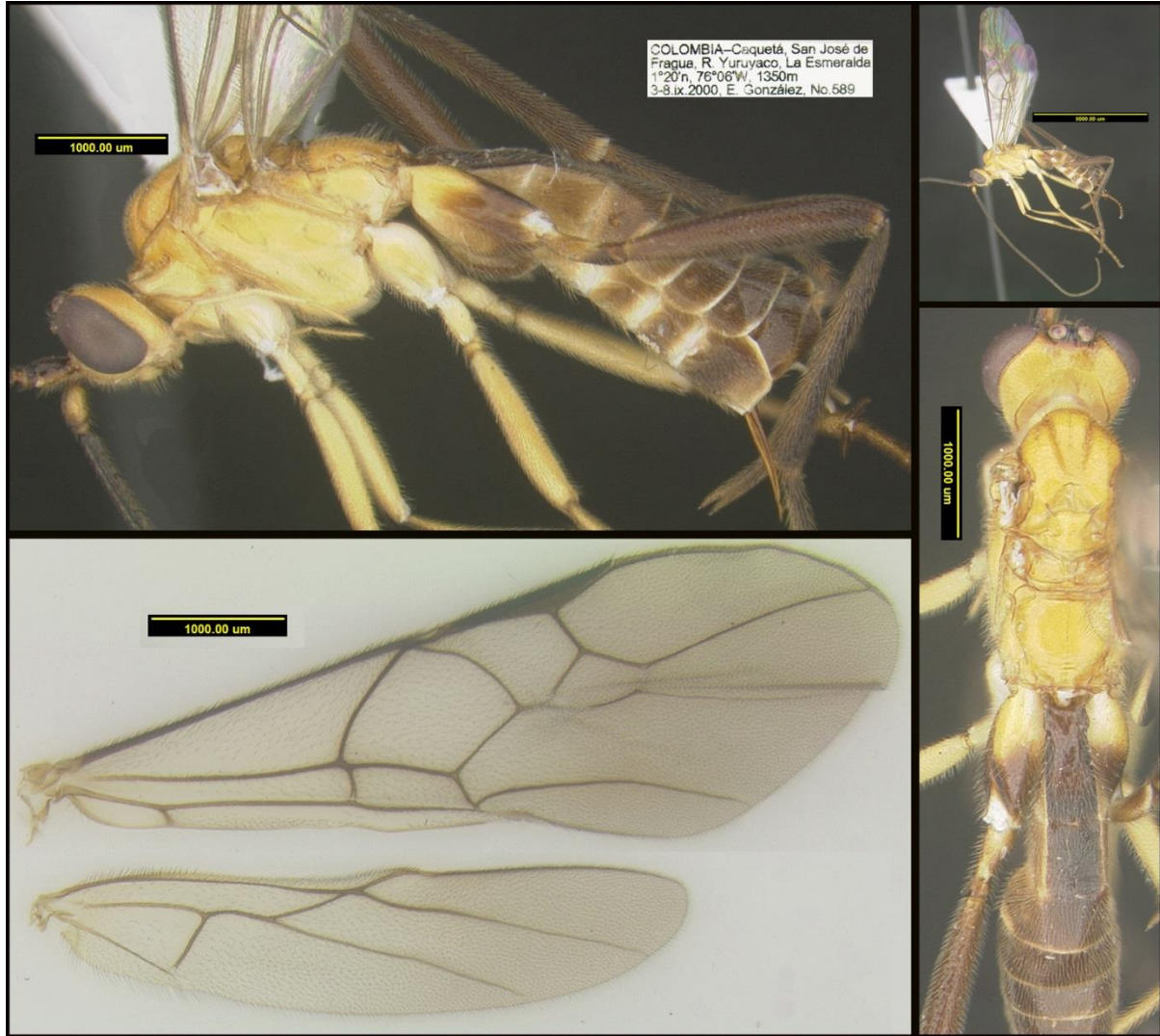


Figure 1. *Exasticolus* n.sp.

***Homolobus*** Foerster, 1862

**Diagnosis.** Fore wing vein (RS+ M)a straight or weakly sinuate. Inner side of hind tibia without a well-developed apical comb.

**Biology.** Noctuidae and Geometridae are the most common hosts of *Homolobus* (van Achterberg, 1979).

**Diversity.** 56 described species, about 13 in the New World, many more undescribed.

**Distribution.** Cosmopolitan.

**Publications.** Van Achterberg (1979), changed the name from *Zele*, revised the genus and erected numerous subgenera. Van Achterberg and Shaw (2009) published a key to the Neotropical species of the subgenus *Oulophus* van Achterberg and included a new species of *Homolobus*.

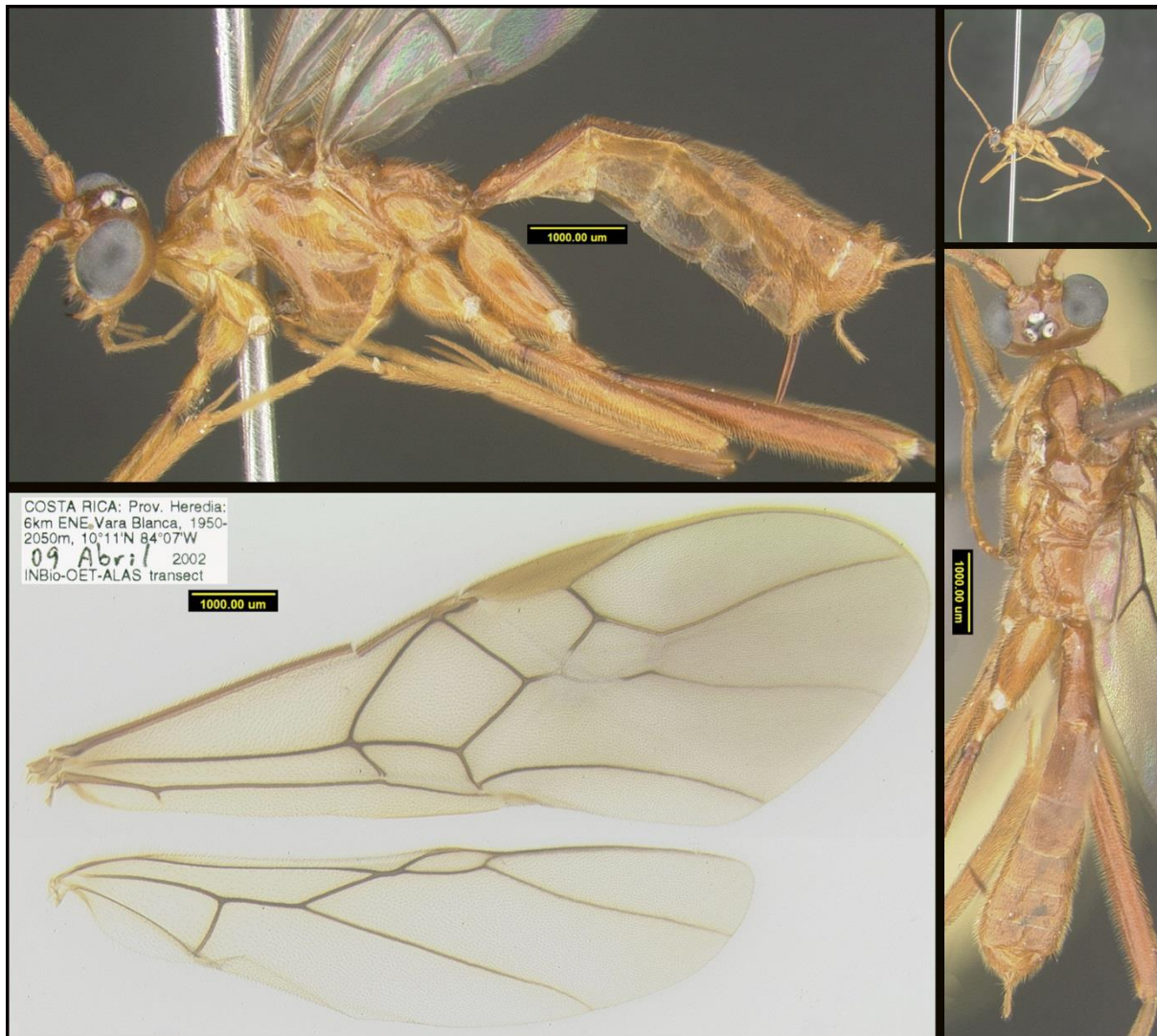


Figure 2. *Homolobus* n.sp.

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