



Description of a new species of the genus *Indiopius* Fischer (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) from India

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The genus *Indiopius* Fischer was revised and redescribed by Fischer (1987) and Wharton (1997). It is easily characterized by having fore wing 3RSb absent apically, thus marginal cell incomplete apically. Both 2RS and r-m missing thus all submarginal cells incomplete. m-cu missing.

This is a small genus, recorded so far only from Oriental region by two species viz., *Indiopius humillimus* Fischer (India) and *Indiopius saigonensis* Fischer (Vietnam). In the present work a new species, viz., *Indiopius fischeri*, is described. The diagnostic characters of the species are provided.

The terminology for the various body parts and wing venation is that of Sharkey & Wharton (1997) while Eady (1968) has been followed for the description of surface sculpture.

Indiopius fischeri Samiuddin & Ahmad, sp. nov. (Images 1-3)

Material examined:

Holotype: 8.vii.1999, male, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, India, coll. Ahmad Samiuddin, Reg.no. HYM/BR.008.

Paratypes: 10.v.1999, 1 male, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, India, coll. Ahmad Samiuddin, Reg.no. HYM/BR.055; 20.v.1999, 2 males, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, India, coll. Ahmad Samiuddin, Reg.no. HYM/BR.056-57; 18.v.2000, 1 male, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, India, coll. Zubair Ahmad, Reg.no. HYM/BR.058;

11.x.2001, 1 female, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, India, coll. Ahmad Samiuddin, Reg.no. HYM/BR.059; 27.vii.2002, 3 males, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, India, coll. Mehdi Hayat Shahi, Reg. no. HYM/BR.060,061,062; 4.x.2002, 1 male, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, India, coll. Zubair Ahmad, Reg.no. HYM/BR.063.

Distribution: India (Uttar Pradesh).

Etymology

The species has been named in honour of Dr. Maximilian Fischer, a well known Braconologist.

Female: Body length 1.3mm.

Head: Smooth, 1.9x as wide as long (17:9); Eye slightly protruded, 1.4x as long as temple (5.5:4), temple rounded; occiput slightly curved; ocelli slightly protruded, small, AOL:POL:OOL:OOD = 2:2.5:4.5:1.25, width of stemmaticum 0.12mm. Face strongly convex, sparsely punctate polished, twice as wide as high (9:4.5), sparsely setose, middle carina visible faint on bottom; clypeus considerably less convex than face, smooth polished, 3.5x as wide as high (7:2), separated from face through a clearly impressed semicircular suture. Inter-tentorial line 3.4x tentorio-ocular line (5.5:1.6). Malar area shorter than basal mandibular width (2:3), mandibles at base not wide, upper tooth is longer than lower. Oral cavity visible. Maxillary palp 0.5x as long as head height (6:13). Antennae filiform, 1.2x longer than body (62:52.5), 18-segmented (range 18-19), F₁ 2.1x as long as wide (4.25:2), F₂ 0.8x as long as F₁ (3.5:4.25), following flagellomeres as wide as F₁ (2:2), penultimate 1.5x as long as wide (2.8:1.9), all flagellomeres clearly separated from each other, length of longest setae is less than the width of flagellomeres (1.5:2), in side view three placodes visible.

Mesosoma: Dorsally slightly convex, 1.2x as long as high (19:16.5), 1.2x as high as head (16.5:13) and 0.8x as wide as head (14:17); mesonotum smooth, 0.8x as wide as long (11:14), equally rounded before the tegulae; notauli visible only anteriorly, absent on disc, its imaginary line is not represented through a row of fine setae; mid pit absent; sides of mesonotum margined and finely crenulate. Scutellar sulcus moderately narrow, crenulate. Scutellum smooth, polished. Metanotum smooth, polished; side field of metanotum finely crenulate. Propodeum smooth, polished. Side of thorax smooth, polished; sternaulus narrow, finely crenulate. Mesosoma overall smooth, polished. Legs narrow, hind femur 3.6x as long as wide (12.5:3.5).

Wings: Stigma wedge shaped, Length, 0.32mm, width, 0.08mm, Metacarpus (R1) as long as stigma (13:13), not

Abbreviations: 3RSb - third abscissa of radius; 2RS - first cubital cross vein; r-m - second cubital cross vein; m-cu - recurrent vein; 3RSa - second abscissa of radius; m-cu in hind wing - post nervellus; T₂ - second metasomal tergite; T₃ - third metasomal tergite; T₄ - fourth metasomal tergite; OOL - ocello-ocular line (distance from the outer edge of a lateral ocellus to the compound eye); POL - posterior-ocellar line (distance between the inner edges of the two lateral ocelli); AOL - anterior-ocellar line (distance between the inner edges of anterior and lateral ocellus); OD - diameter of an ocellus; ZDAMU - Zoology Department, Aligarh Muslim University.

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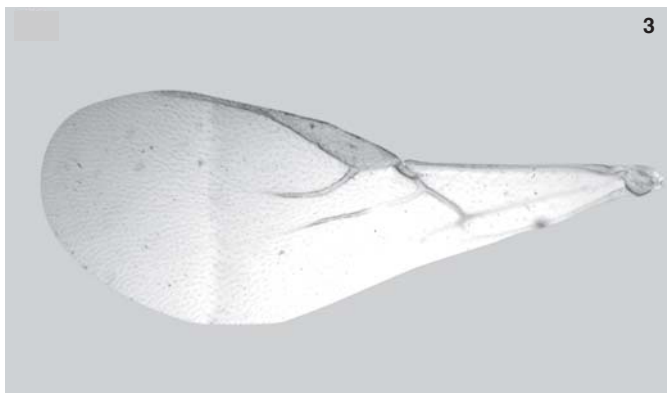
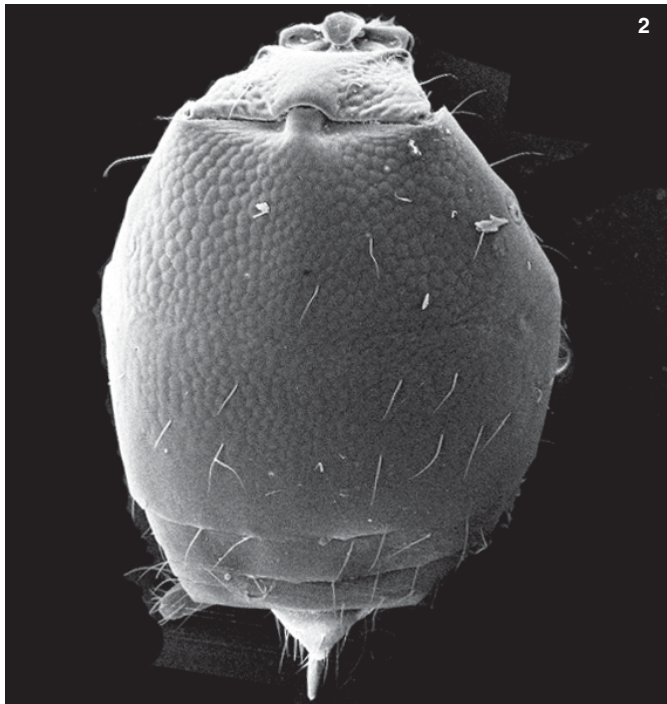
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Images 1-3. *Indiopijs fischeri* Samiuddin & Ahmad, sp. nov.
1 - Head, frontal view; 2 - Metasoma, dorsal view; 3 - Forewing

reaching completely up to apex; marginal cell clearly short, imaginary tip visible clearly before the wing apex; vein r arising from basal fourth of stigma (13:3.25), completely merged with 3RSa in the form of an equally curved vein. 2RS and r-m absent thus all sub marginal cells incompletely formed; 1CU visible, faint; 1cu-a clearly postfurcal; m-cu in hind wing absent.

Metasoma: Petiole slightly convex, equally granulate, as long as its apical width (6.5:6.5), basally equally narrow; basal carina visible until more than half of petiole, converging apically. T_2 , T_3 clearly granulate. T_4 finely granulate. Rest of the metasoma smooth, polished. Ovipositor slightly protruded, Length 0.12mm.

Colour: Body brownish including tegulae, mandibles and scape; antennae brown including pedicel; palpi pale; legs yellowish; mandibular tip, tarsal claw dark brown; ovipositor sheath black; wings infusate, stigma and reduced venation brown.

Male: Similar to the female. Body length 1.3mm.

Host: Unknown

Remarks

The new species, *Indiopijs fischeri*, closely resembles *Indiopijs humillimus* Fischer but differs in having: upper mandibular tooth is longer than lower tooth (both mandibular teeth equally long in *humillimus*), maxillary palpi 0.5x as long as head height (maxillary palpi as long as head height in *humillimus*), top side of mesosoma slightly convex (top side of mesosoma strongly convex in *humillimus*), hind femur 3.6x as long as wide (hind femur 4.5x as long as wide in *humillimus*), 1 cu-a clearly postfurcal (1 cu-a almost interstitial in *humillimus*), basal carina visible until more than half of petiole (basal carina visible until basal third of petiole in *humillimus*).

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