



Revision of the West Palaearctic species
of the genus *Bassus* Fabricius
(Hymenoptera: Braconidae)

G. Simbolotti & C. van Achterberg

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Key **words**: Braconidae; Agathidinae; *Bassus*; *Agathis*; Europe; North Africa; West Palaearctic; biology; distribution; keys.

The West Palaearctic species of the genus *Bassus* Fabricius, 1804 (Braconidae: Agathidinae) are revised and keyed, together with the similar *Agathis mediator* group. Twenty-two species of *Bassus* and four species of the *Agathis mediator* group are recognized, of which three are new: *B. barbieri* from Algeria, *B. epinotiae* from Great Britain, and *B. graecus* from Greece. Seven species are synonymized: *Microdus lugubator* Ratzeburg, 1852 with *B. mediator* (Nees, 1814), *Microdus punctatus* Abdinbekova, 1975 with *B. rugulosus* (Nees, 1834), *Microdus annae* Enderlein, 1908, *Microdus victoris* Telenga, 1955, and *M. anuphrievi* Tobias, 1986 with *B. tumidulus* (Nees, 1814), *Microdus rufiventris* Abdinbekova, 1975 with *B. nugax* (Reinhard, 1867), and *Agathis minuta* Niezabitowski, 1910, with *Cenostomus lugubris* Foerster, 1862. Three genera are synonymized with *Bassus*: *Camptothlipsis* Enderlein, 1920, *Hornmagathis* Brues, 1926 and *Obesomicrodus* Papp, 1971. Lectotypes are designated for the following species: *Cenostomus lugubris* Foerster, 1862; *Microdus arcuatus* Reinhard, 1867; *M. brevicaudis* Reinhard, 1867; *M. fortipes* Reinhard, 1867, and *M. nugax* Reinhard, 1867. Neotypes are designated for *Microdus cingulipes* Nees, 1814; *M. claussthalianus* Ratzeburg, 1844; *M. dimidiator* Nees, 1834; *M. linguarius* Nees, 1814; *M. mediator* Nees, 1814; *M. pumilus* Ratzeburg, 1844; *M. rufipes* Nees, 1814; *M. rugulosus* Nees, 1834; and *M. tumidulus* Nees, 1814. *Orgilus abbrmiator* (Ratzeburg, 1852) comb. nov. may be a senior synonym of *O. nanellae* Tobias, 1986. *Bassus niger* (Papp, 1971 nec Telenga, 1955) is renamed as *B. nigrisoma* nom. nov.

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of head; length of eye 3 times temple, POL:diameter of ocellus:OOL = 6:5:12; face rather punctate, clypeus moderately transverse and largely smooth; area between antennal sockets triangular, with median keel; area behind antennal sockets distinctly depressed; vertex sparsely punctulate; temples somewhat concave posteriorly; length of malar space 2.3 times basal width of mandible

Mesosoma.— Length of mesosoma 1.5 times its height; lateral pronope small and shallow; epomia double; side of pronotum finely punctulate posteriorly, smooth medially, and crenulate-rugose medio-anteriorly; mesosternal sulcus distinctly crenulate and rather deep; prepectal carina strong ventrally, normal and not emarginate; mesoscutum and scutellum sparsely punctate, but middle lobe of mesoscutum more densely so than lateral lobes; notauli distinct, finely and narrowly micro-crenulate; scutellum triangular, moderately convex and with weak posterior crest; mesopleuron smooth above precoxal sulcus, somewhat punctulate below it; precoxal sulcus nearly complete, rather wide and strongly crenulate; metapleuron coarsely punctate dorsally and coarsely rugose ventrally; propodeum very coarsely rugose.

Wings.— Fore wing: second submarginai cell (sub)triangular, with or without a short stalk; SR1 straight; r:3-SR+SR1 = 7:60; cu-a inclivous. Hind wing: M+CU:1-M = 7:8.

Legs.— Hind femur densely punctate and robust; claws robust and without a basal lobe; length of hind femur, tibia and basitarsus 3.8, 7.0 and 9 times their width, respectively; length of inner and outer spur of middle tibia 0.5 and 0.4 times their basitarsus; length of inner and outer spur of hind tibia 0.4 and 0.3 times hind basitarsus, respectively.

Metasoma.— Length of first tergite 1.4 times its apical width, its surface strongly striate, with pair of robust dorsal carinae basally; length of combined second and third tergite 1.1 times their maximum width; basal third of second tergite superficially rugose (but may be strongly striate in other specimen), remainder of metasoma smooth; length of ovipositor sheath 1.04 times fore wing (in other specimens 0.9 times) and about equal to combined length of meta- and mesosoma.

Colour.— Black; mesoscutum, scutellum, side of pronotum, mesopleuron and mesosternum (but both partly black) orange-brown; head, antenna, propodeum, metapleuron and metasoma black; palpi, fore and middle leg (but middle coxa, trochanter and trochantellus, and base of femur black, and middle tibia whitish basally) yellowish-brown; middle coxa and hind leg black, except tibia with a small basal whitish band; wings subhyaline, with veins and pterostigma dark brown.

Diagnostic characters.— This species is one of the most easily recognizable *Bacsus* species, due to the lack of a basal lobe on the hind claws and the colour of the mesosoma and hind tibia.

Distribution.— France, Great Britain, Italy, "Setherlands.

Biology.— According to Nixon (1986) a parasite of Tineidae in (bracket) fungi or dead wood: *Morophaga boleti* (Fabricius) and probably also *Triaxomera parasitella* (Hübner).

Bacsus canariensis (Szépligeti, 1908) comh. nov.

Baeognatha canariensis Szépligeti, 1908: 411; Shenefelt, 1970: 367. Holotype, ♀ (TMA), from Canary Islands (Tenerife) examined.

Material.— 1 ♀ (RMNH), "[Canary Islands], Tenerife, B. del Infierno, 30.iv.1971, Teunissen"; 1 ♀ (RMNH), "[Canary Islands], El Charco (Fuerteventura), 12-16.ii.[19]85, Canarias (Espagna), leg. H. Teunissen"; 1 ♂ (RMNH), "[Canary Islands], El Cotillo (Fuerteventura), 17.ii.[19]85, leg. H. Teunissen"; 1 ♂ (RMNH), "Islas Canarias, Tenerife, Las Galletas, 24.ii.1951, J.M. Fernandez"; 1 ♀ (RMNH), "Tenerife, Santa Cruz, 15.xii.1943, R. Arozarena" [compared with holotype]; 1 ♂ (RMNH), "Fuerteventura, Tiudaya, 16.ii.[19]77, M. Báez".

Diagnostic characters.— The lack of the vein r-m of fore wing, the absence of a sculptured precoxal sulcus, the strongly developed and upcurved prepectal carina, the narrow marginal cell of the fore wing, the ovipositor about 0.8 times fore wing and the yellowish hind femur allow an easy identification.

Distribution.— Canary Islands.

Biology.— Unknown.

Bassus cingulipes (Nees, 1814)

(figs 18-20, 87, 119)

Microdus cingulipes Nees, 1814: 189; Tobias, 1986: 288; Nixon, 1986: 221-222. Syntypes from Germany are lost; neotype, ♀ (MNHN), from France designated below.

Bassus cingulipes; Thompson, 1953: 94, 96.

Agathis cingulipes; Shenefelt, 1970: 325-326

Material.— 1 ♂ (neotype here designated, MNHN), "Museum Paris, France, Le Vernet, Seine et Oise, coll. O. Sichel, 1867"; 1 ♀ (MNHN), "Museum Paris, France, Le Vernet, Seine et Oise, coll. O. Sichel, 1867"; "Ves, 1.ix.[18]60"; 1 ♀ (MNHN), "Lucerne, 25.vi.[19]22"; "Museum Paris, coll. de Gaulle, 1919"; 1 ♀ (MNHN), "Museum Paris, coll. J. de Gaulle 1919", handvritten label illegible; 1 ♀ (MNHN), "Museum Paris, 1906 coll. Leon Fairmaire", "Portsaonc, 1699"; 1 ♀ (MNHN), "Museum Paris, coll. Giraud 1877"; 1 ♀ (RMNH), "Nederland, Waarder (Z.-H.), Oosteinde 33, 2-5.vii.1973, C.v.Achterberg"; 1 ♂ (RMNH), id., but 6-8.vii.1973; 1 ♀ (RMNH), id., but 21-23.vii.1973; 1 ♂ (RMNH), id. but 14-20.vii.1975; 2 ♀♀ (RMNH), "Nederland, Hulshorst (Gld.), 31.vii.1975, J.v.d.Vecht, Malaise-trap"; 1 ♀ (RMNH), "Bulgaria, ex coll. Zaykov, RMNH Leiden 1991", "Borovez, 23.vii.1982, leg. Zaykov"; 1 ♀ (ITZ), "[Netherlands], Putten (G.), 1.viii.1885, J.Th. Oudemans".

Neotype, ♀, length of fore wing 4.5 mm, of body about 5 mm.

Head.— Antennal segments 29; length of third segment 1.2 times fourth segment; length of third, fourth and penultimate segments 3.0, 2.5 and 1.0 times their width, respectively; length of maxillary palp 0.7 times height of head; length of eye about 3 times temple in dorsal view; POL:diameter of ocellus:OOL = 8:4:7; face transverse in frontal view and punctate, with frons somewhat finely rugulose; area between antennal sockets triangular (fig. 9), and area behind antennal socket rather depressed.

Mesosoma.— Length of mesosoma 1.4 times its height; side of pronotum largely smooth, with some rugulosity anteriorly and punctation posteriorly; lateral pronope small and deep; prepectal carina rather weak; mesosternal sulcus smooth; mesocutum punctate; notauli distinctly impressed, with fine micro-crenulation; scutellum somewhat triangularly shaped, rather flat and punctulate, with smooth rims; mesopleuron largely punctulate; precoxal sulcus distinct, long and narrow, with fine micro-crenulation; metapleuron punctate, with lower part rugose; propodeum strongly rugose.

Wings.— Fore wing: marginal cell very narrow especially basally, its width about