

**FIRST RECORD OF THE GENUS *MYRMECODIPOGON* ISHIKAWA, 1965  
(HYMENOPTERA: POMPILIDAE) FROM RUSSIA**

**V. M. Loktionov\*, M. E. Sergeev**

*Federal Scientific Center of the East Asia Terrestrial Biodiversity, Far East Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Vladivostok, 690022, Russia. \*Corresponding author. E-mail: pompilidaefer@mail.ru*

**Summary.** The spider wasp genus *Myrmecodipogon* Ishikawa, 1965 is recorded from Russia for the first time. The single female specimen of *M. asahinai* Ishikawa, 1965 was collected in surroundings of the Khanka Lake (Russian Far East, Primorsky Krai). Diagnosis of the genus and illustrations of *M. asahinai* are given. The distribution of *Myrmecodipogon* species is discussed.

**Key words:** spider wasps, Pepsinae, Deuterageniini, fauna, new record, Palaearctic region.

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**Резюме.** Род дорожных ос *Myrmecodipogon* Ishikawa, 1965 впервые указывается для фауны России. Единственная самка *M. asahinai* Ishikawa, 1965 собрана в окрестностях озера Ханка (Дальний Восток, Приморский край). Приведены диагноз рода и иллюстрации *M. asahinai*. Обсуждается распространение видов рода *Myrmecodipogon*.

**INTRODUCTION**

*Myrmecodipogon* was described as subgenus of *Dipogon* Fox, 1897 by Ishikawa (1965) from Honshu, Japan based on *D. (M.) asahinai* Ishikawa, 1965. Later, Lelej (2001) described a second species in the subgenus: *D. (M.) choii* from Juju Island, South Korea. This was a single female specimen with no more new data on the species so far. Wahis (2010), dealing with the species *asahinai* occurring in Europe, proposed a new junior synonym, *D. (S.) fonfriaei* Wahis, 2005, and summarized data on its distribution: Japan (Honshu), Poland, Austria, and France. Thus, these listed countries as well as South Korea are current distribution of *Myrmecodipogon*, including only two species. Lelej & Loktionov (2012) raised *Myrmecodipogon* to generic level based on their phylogenetic analysis of the tribe Deuterageniini. The type species of the genus was found by second author in Primorsky Krai.

The following additional material on *Myrmecodipogon* is studied: *M. asahinai*: 1 ♀, 1 ♂ from Poland, Biebrza National Park (gifted by B. Wiśnowski); 1 ♀ from Japan, Tokyo (gifted by A. Shimizu) [Federal Scientific Center of the East Asia Terrestrial Biodiversity, Vladivostok, Russia]; *M. choii*: 1 ♀, holotype, "KOREA: JJ / Jeju / 25.X.1998 / June-Yeol

Choi // Holotypus *Dipogon* / (*Myrmecodipogon*) *choii* Lelej ♀ [National Institute of Agricultural Science, South Korea; it is temporarily kept in Vladivostok].

Photographs of the specimen were taken with the stereomicroscope Olympus SZX16 and digital camera Olympus DP74, and stacked using Helicon Focus software. The final illustrations were postprocessed for contrast and brightness using Adobe® Photoshop® software.

## NEW RECORD

### Genus *Myrmecodipogon* Ishikawa, 1965

Type species: *Dipogon* (*Myrmecodipogon*) *asahinai* Ishikawa, 1965, by original designation.

DIAGNOSIS. The genus clearly differs from all other genera of the tribe Deuterageniini by the following characters: anal lobe of hind wing is very small, its length less than 0.25 length of submedial cell *M+Cu2*; mesosoma narrowed, head width dorsally 1.7 (♀), 1.4 (♂) pronotum maximum width dorsally; pronotum elongated, its length 0.6 (♀), 0.5 (♂) its width.

COMPOSITION. Two species: *Myrmecodipogon asahinai* (Ishikawa, 1965) and *M. choii* (Lelej, 2001).

DISTRIBUTION. Russia (Primorsky Krai) (new record), South Korea (Lelej, 2001), Japan (Honshu), Poland, Austria, and France (Wahis, 2010).

REMARK. For a citation of the genus, key to the species, descriptions and illustrations of females and males of both species see Loktionov & Lelej, 2014: 150.

### *Myrmecodipogon asahinai* (Ishikawa, 1965)

Figs 1–7

*Dipogon* (*Myrmecodipogon*) *asahinai* Ishikawa, 1965: 95, ♀ (holotype, ♀, "Shimoda, Izu, Shizuoka Pref., 10.VIII.1954 (S. Asahina)", deposited in R. Ishikawa' collection, Japan, not studied).

*Myrmecodipogon asahinai*: Lelej & Loktionov, 2012: 9.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. Russia, Primorsky Krai, Troitskoe Village, Lakeshore of Khanka, reed beds, sweeping net, 20.VIII 2025, 1 ♀, coll. M.E. Sergeev.

DISTRIBUTION. Russia (Primorsky Krai) (new record), Japan (Honshu) (Ishikawa, 1965), Poland, Austria, France (Wahis, 2010).

REMARK. For detailed citation, diagnosis, description and illustrations of female and male of the species see Loktionov & Lelej, 2014: 150.

## DISCUSSION

*Myrmecodipogon* is one of the less studied Pompilidae genera of Palaearctic spider wasps, currently comprising two species only. It is distributed in the East (Japan, Korea, the south of the Russian Far East [new data]) and the West (Poland, Austria, France) of the Palaearctic without any data from intermediate regions. This distribution is rare in the family. It is known that *Anoplius eous* Yasumatsu, 1936 has a similar amphipalaearctic distribution (Loktionov & Lelej, 2014). The poor knowledge of such species is most likely due to unexplored biology, which is why such species are rare in collections. The Polish material collected by the Yellow pan traps (Moericke cups) confirms that *M. asahinai* is associated with swampy habitats and the presence of common reeds (Wahis, 2010). *Myrmecodipogon* females probably nest in the

cavities of reed and bamboo, as is typical for some genera of the tribe Deuterageniini: *Deuteragenia* Šustera, 1912 and *Stigmatodipogon* Ishikawa, 1965 (Loktionov & Lelej, 2014; Shimizu *et al.*, 2018). The new discovery of *M. asahinai* in the south of the Russian Far East expands its distribution in the east of the Palearctic to include its mainland part for the first time. And the biotope, in which this material was collected, once again confirms the association of *Myrmecodipogon* with reeds.

Taking into account the new discovery, the family Pompilidae of Russia currently comprises 252 species from 39 genera and three subfamilies (Loktionov, 2022 and current data).

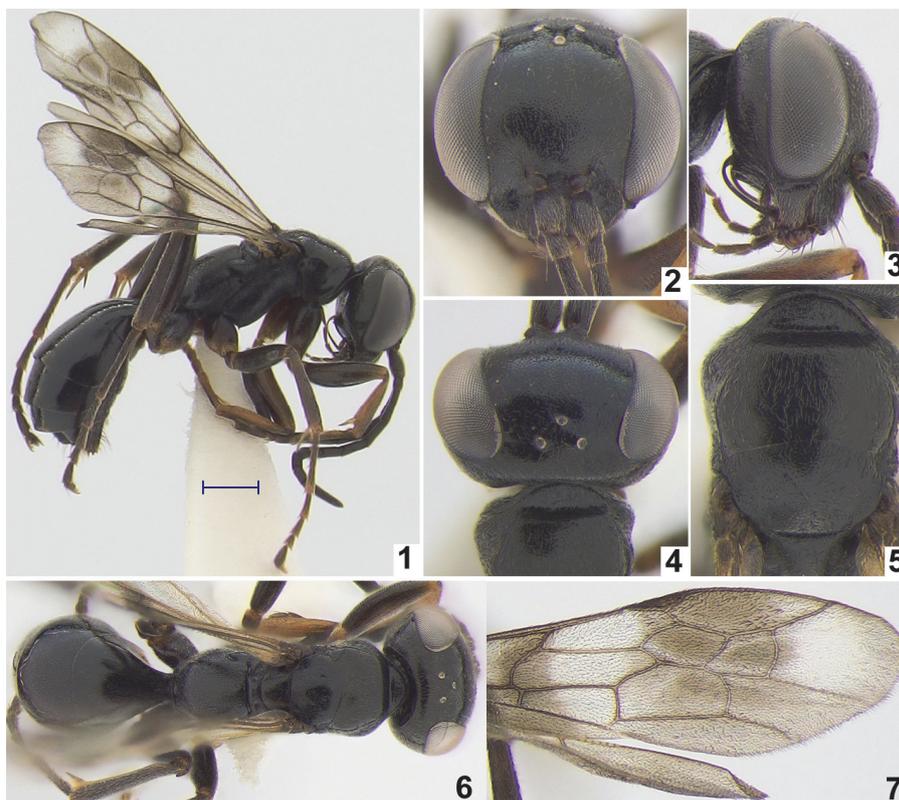


Fig. 1–7. *Myrmecodipogon asahinai*, female from Russia: 1 – habitus, lateral view; 2 – head, frontal view; 3 – head, lateral view; 4 – head and pronotum part., dorsal view; 5 – pronotum and mesoscutum, dorsal view; 6 – head, mesosoma and metasoma, dorsal view; 7 – fore wing. Scale bar: 0.5 mm.

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Address: Federal Scientific Center of the East Asia Terrestrial Biodiversity (former Institute of Biology and Soil Science), Far East Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, 690022, Vladivostok-22, Russia.

E-mail: storozhenko@biosoil.ru

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