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Nesting habits of *Isodontia*, a subgenus of *Chlorion* (Hymenoptera).—In the December, 1928, issue of this Bulletin, Mr. Geo. P. Engelhardt has an interesting account of the breeding habits of *Chlorion harrisi* Fernald, which he observed in Texas with Mr. H. B. Parks. Their observations show that the nesting of this wasp is unlike that of the majority of *Chlorion*, which dig their own burrows in the soil. It is, however, similar to that of *Chlorion auripes* Fernald (*tibialis* Lepeletier), as observed in the eastern United States by Angus and, more recently, by Phil and Nellie Rau; to that of *Chlorion elegans* (Smith), as described by Davidson in California, by C. N. Ainslie in North Dakota, and by S. A. Johnson in Colorado; and to that of the European *Chlorion splendidulum* (Costa), according to P. Marchal and H. Nicolas. These four species all agree in selecting pre-existing cavities for the storing of their prey, which consists of tree-crickets or katydids. The cavities may be old galleries made by carpenter-bees in wood, abandoned burrows of *Anthophora* in adobe, hollow reeds or plant stalks, or rolled up dry leaves. Inside the hollow, the several cells are separated by plugs of dry grass or other plant material. *Chlorion harrisi* has also been recorded by H. G. Hubbard and by F. M. Jones (under the name *Isodontia philadelphia*) as nesting in the pitchers of *Sarracenia flava*. Moreover, the four species mentioned belong, within the genus *Chlorion*, to a peculiar group, or subgenus, *Isodontia*, characterized *inter alia* by the absence of a tarsal comb of long spines on the fore legs of the female. The lack of a comb is evidently correlated with the aberrant nesting habits; for in the other groups of *Chlorion*, which dig burrows in the soil, the comb is strongly developed in the female.

From these considerations one is naturally led to the conclusion that all the fossorial wasps of the subgenus *Isodontia* will prove

to have nesting habits similar to those of the four species discussed above. I am therefore pleased to record one more species of this group that strengthens this surmise. A short time ago I received from Mr. G. B. Fairchild a female of *Chlorion* (*Iso-dontia*) *exornatum* Fernald, obtained in Royal Palm State Park, southern Florida, during December, 1920. As Mr. Fairchild tells me, this wasp was captured while entering the hollow, broken stalk of a tall herbaceous plant, probably one of the Umbelliferae. —J. BEQUAERT, Boston, Massachusetts.



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