

**A NEW SPECIES OF *PERICLISTA*
(HYMENOPTERA: TENTHREDINIDAE)
ASSOCIATED WITH *NOTHOFAGUS* (FAGACEAE)
IN ARGENTINA AND CHILE¹**

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ABSTRACT: *Periclista dapotoae*, Smith, n. sp., is described from Argentina and Chile and separated from the described species of *Periclista* from South America. It was reared from *Nothofagus antarctica* (Fagaceae). *Periclista leucoma* is a new combination.

RESÚMEN: Se describe *Periclista dapotoae*, Smith, n. sp., de Argentina y Chile y se separa de especies de *Periclista* descriptas de Sud América. Fué criada sobre *Nothofagus antarctica* (Fagaceae). *Periclista leucoma* es una nueva combinación.

The purpose of this paper is to provide a name for a sawfly found damaging *Nothofagus antarctica* (Forst. F.) Oest (Fagaceae) in Argentina. A reared adult sent to the senior author by G. Dapoto and H. Giganti belonged to an undescribed species of South American *Periclista* Konow, a bipolar genus of Blennocampinae (Tenthredinidae). This specimen and others on hand from Argentina and adjacent Chile are used to describe this new species. We also report the first food plant record for a South American *Periclista*.

Periclista is a Holarctic genus with 19 species in North America (Smith 1979) and is distributed coast to coast from southern Canada south to Costa Rica. About another 15 species occur in Eurasia from Europe to Japan. Known food plants for the Holarctic species are *Quercus* spp. and *Hicoria* spp. Nine species, five of which are undescribed, also occur in central and southern Chile and Argentina. The genus is not known between Costa Rica and central Chile and Argentina.

***Periclista dapotoae* Smith, NEW SPECIES
(Fig. 1)**

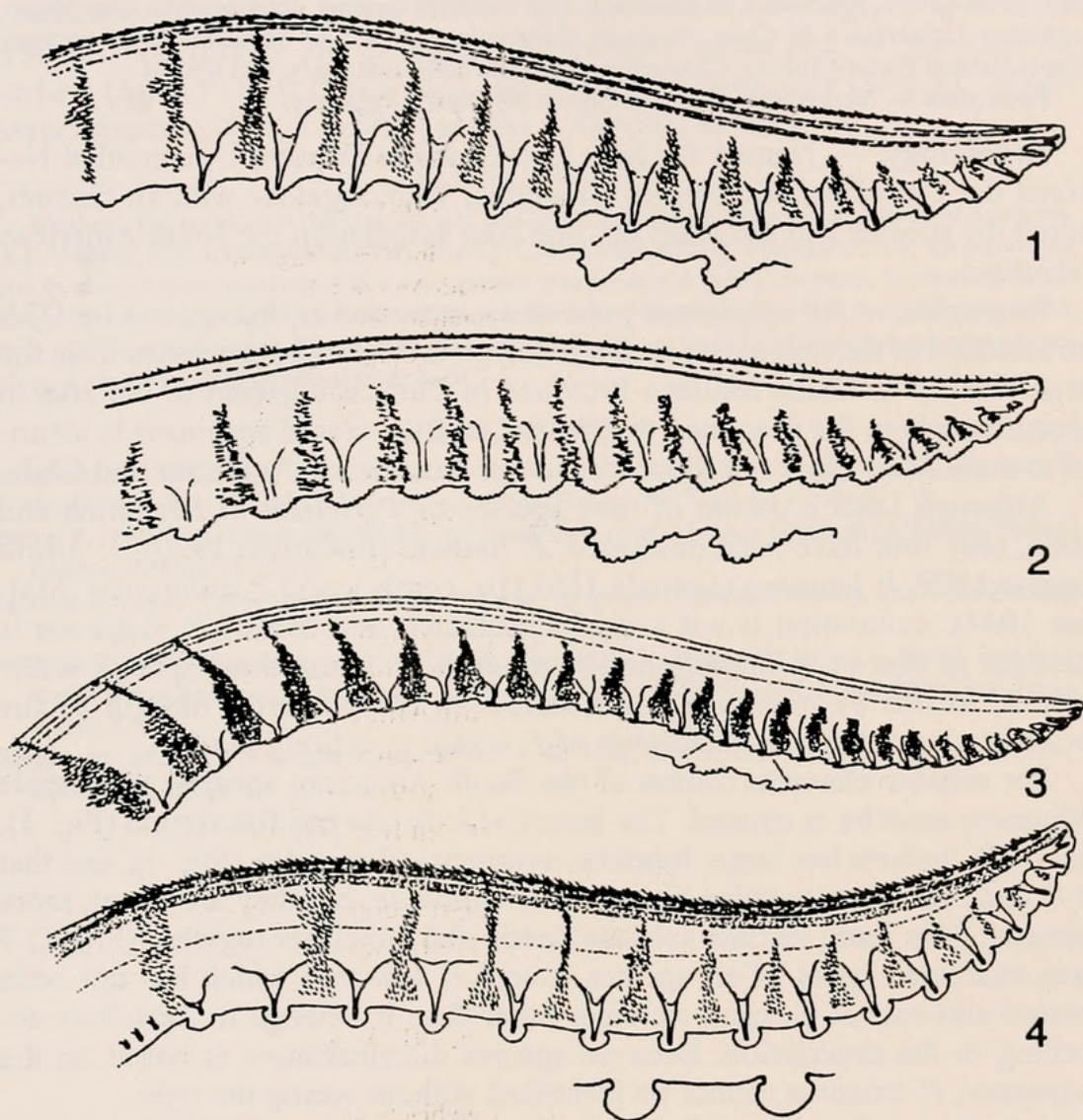
Female.— Length, 6.5–8.0 mm. Antenna and head black; labrum and palpi whitish; apex of mandible reddish brown. Thorax black with posterior half of pronotum, tegula, parapteron, stripe on posterior margin of mesepisternum, stripe on posterior margin of mesepimeron, posterior margin of metapleuron, and small spot at center of metapleuron white. Abdomen yellow orange with basal plates and sheath black and with various amounts of black on terga; ventral portion of sheath sometimes whitish. Legs yellow orange with tarsi and hind tibia blackish, and base of coxae and line on outer margin of hind coxa black. Wings uniformly, lightly infuscated; veins black, stigma more brownish. Lancet (Fig. 1) with about 16 serrulae, each serrula asymmetrical, directed anteriorly, with one anterior and 3–4 very fine posterior subbasal teeth.

Male.— Unknown.

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Figs. 1-4. Female lencets. 1, *Periclista dapotoae*. 2, *P. antarctica*. 3, *P. lorata*. 4, *P. limbata*.

Holotype. — ♀, "Prov. Malleco, Cord. Las Raices, Lonquimay, 1500-1800 mts., 25, 28 Dic. 1967, E. Peña" At the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC (USNM)

Paratypes. — ARGENTINA: Moquehue-Dpto Alumine-Prov. del Neuquen, 1985, G. Dapoto and H. Giganti, larva on *Nothofagus antarctica* (1 ♀); Bariloche, Rio Negro, Agr., Nov. 1926, R. and E. Shannon (5 ♀); Chubut, Patagonia (1 ♀). CHILE: Same data as holotype (6 ♀); Refugio, Shangrila, 1400 m, Cord. Chillan, 18, 19 Marzo 71, L.E. Peña (1 ♀); Galletue, Malleco, 1200 m, Dec. 20, 1959, L.E. Peña (6 ♀); Prov. Malleco, Cord. Las Raices, Lonquimay, 1500 mts, 29 Dic. 1967, L.E. Peña (1 ♀); Pichinahueal, Cord. Nahuelbuta, Jan 28-31, 1959, L.E. Peña (2 ♀), same, Jan 10-20, 1959 (2 ♀), same, Dec. 23-31, 1958 (3 ♀); La Fusta, Malleco, 800 m, Dec. 9, 1959 (3 ♀); Sierra de Nahuelbuta, W. of Angol, 1200 m, I-2-51, Ross and Michelbacher (1 ♀), same I-3-51 (2 ♀); Lago Gualletue [Galletue on some labels], Cord. Lonquimay, 10/12-XII-1963, L. Peña (4 ♀), same 19/31-I-1962 (3 ♀); Sierra Nevada, Cord. Lonquimay, 1/5-I-1962 (3 ♀); Sierra Nevada, Cord. Lonquimay, 13/16-XII-1963, L. Peña (2 ♀); Nahuelbuta, Angol, 1-II-

1979, Peña (2 ♀). Specimens deposited at Universidad Nacional del Comahue, Río Negro, Argentina; Universidad de Chile, Santiago; California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco; Illinois Natural History Survey, Champaign; Pagliano collection, Italy; and USNM.

Food plant.— *Nothofagus antarctica* (Forst. F.) Oerst. (Fagaceae).

Etymology. — Named for Ing. Agr. Graciela Dapoto, Universidad Nacional del Comahue, Río Negro, Argentina, who, together with H. Giganti, reared the species and provided the first host association for South American *Periclista*.

Remarks. — All specimens previously separated as this species by DRS are included in the type series, and a holotype is chosen from a series from the same locality in Chile. Malleco Province in Chile is adjacent to the area in Argentina where the specimen was reared, and the reared specimen is identical to these from Chile and those from other localities in Argentina and Chile.

Although DRS is aware of nine species of *Periclista* in Argentina and Chile, only four have been described, *P. limbata* (Enderlein 1920), *P. lorata* Konow 1899, *P. leucoma* (Spinola 1851) (**n. comb.**), and *P. antarctica* (Malaise 1944). Coloration is not a useful character, and that of *P. dapotoae* is identical to that of *P. limbata* and *P. antarctica*. These three species differ from *P. lorata* by having a white stripe on the posterior margin of the mesepisternum; the mesepisternum of *P. lorata* is entirely black.

For reliable characterization of the South American species, the female ovipositor must be examined. The lancet of *P. lorata* has flat serrula (Fig. 3), that of *P. limbata* has large, lobelike, symmetrical serrulae (Fig. 4), and that of *P. antarctica* has serrulae similar to *P. dapotoae*, but they are lower, more rounded, have more distinct subbasal teeth, and are closer together (Fig. 2). I have examined types of all species except *P. leucoma* which has not been located and cannot be characterized, other than it belongs in *Periclista* according to the description. Because species discrimination is based on the ovipositor, *P. leucoma* cannot be identified without seeing the type.

A number of males of *Periclista* from Argentina and Chile have been examined, but they have not been associated with females and thus cannot be identified.

Based on one larva examined by DRS and according to observations by G. Dapoto and H. Giganti where this species was reared in Neuquén, the larvae have bifurcated spines. Some larvae have the spines black at the base and other have only the tips black, the latter being the form associated with *P. dapotoae*. Based on differences in color, three larval morphotypes have been observed on *Nothofagus*, thus indicating the presence of more than one species in the area. All three can be found on the same host, and they have been observed on *Nothofagus antarctica* and two on *N. pumilio* (Poepp. et Entl.) Krasser. The presence of bifurcate spines on the body is similar to the larvae of the Holarctic species and helps substantiate the congeneric placement of the Holarctic and South American species.

Habitat. — The reared specimen comes from the area called Moquehue

in Neuquén, Argentina, in the Andes. The altitude of the Lago Moquehue is 1,130 m. The forests are primarily *Nothofagus antarctica*, *N. pumilio*, *N. dombeyi* (Mirb.) Oerst (Fagaceae) and *Araucaria araucana* (Mol.) C. Koch (Araucariaceae). The collecting season is October to May.

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