

**SPECIES CHECKLIST OF THE SUBGENUS *Polistella* OF THE PAPERWASP
GENUS *Polistes* (Insecta: Hymenoptera: Vespidae, Polistinae) OTHER THAN
CONTINENTAL AFROTROPICAL AND MALAGASY SPECIES**

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ABSTRACT

A comprehensive and updated species checklist of the Old World subgenus *Polistella* of the genus *Polistes* (Hymenoptera: Vespidae) occurring in the areas other than the continental Africa and Madagascar is presented. The checklist compiles taxonomic and nomenclatural information as well as distributional data based on critical examinations of literature, particularly incorporating species described after Carpenter's (1996) distributional checklist of the genus *Polistes*. For each taxon, information on nomenclature, type locality, type depository, and distribution records are provided, along with remarks on taxonomic issues where they are necessary. During the compilation, the name *Polistes (Polistella) daehanicus* Kim, 2023 was found to be unavailable under the 4th edition of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature without fulfilling the requirement of Article 16.4.2. Providing the name and location of the depository of the holotype, Dr. Kim has herein validated the name.

Keywords: Biodiversity, checklist, distribution, Old World, Southeast Asia, type locality.

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INTRODUCTION

Polistes is the only cosmopolitan genus and one of the most species-rich genera in the social wasps (Vespinae and Polistinae), with more than 300 species-group taxa (species and subspecies) occurring in all but the Antarctic zoogeographical regions, in other words, in all habitable continents and islands. Richards (1973) divided *Polistes* into the following 12 subgenera: *Aphanilopterus*, *Epicnemius*, *Fuscopolistes*, *Onerarius*, *Palisotius*, *Gyrostoma*, *Stenopolistes*, *Nygmopolistes*, *Megapolistes*, *Polistella*, *Sulcopolistes*, and *Polistes* s. str. Based on phylogenetic analyses using either morphological and/or molecular data (Carpenter, 1996a; Pickett & Wenzel, 2004; Arévalo et al., 2004; Pickett et al., 2006; Pickett & Carpenter, 2010; Santos et al., 2015 (2014); Nguyen et al., 2018; Somavilla et al., 2021), currently eight monophyletic subgenera are recognized in the genus: five New World subgenera (Somavilla et al., 2021), namely *Aphanilopterus*, *Epicnemius*, *Fuscopolistes*, *Onerarius* and *Palisotius*; *Gyrostoma* (synonyms: *Nygmopolistes* and *Megapolistes*) occurring in the Middle East through Oriental Region to the East Asia and Australasia; *Polistella* (synonym: *Stenopolistes*), widely distributed in the Old World except for western parts of the Palearctic Region; and Palearctic and Afrotropical subgenus *Polistes* s. str. (synonym: *Sulcopolistes*).

Among the three Old World subgenera, *Polistella* is the most species-rich and diverse in zoogeographical and environmental distribution as well as in nesting behavior. Also bio-fluorescence feature of the pupal cocoon has been known only in this subgenus in the social wasps or possibly in the Hymenoptera (de Marcillac et al., 2021). Despite these biologically interesting aspects of the subgenus, the species-level taxonomy and phylogeny of *Polistella* are as yet poorly studied.

A comprehensive checklist of species-group taxa would provide basic information necessary to conduct any biodiversity researches/studies, including taxonomic and biogeographical ones. The

latest species-group taxa checklist of the subgenus *Polistella* was published in 1996 in the distributional checklist of the species of the genus *Polistes* (Carpenter, 1996b), in which 104 species-group taxa (69 species and 35 subspecies) were in *Polistella*. Since then 27 species have been described from Asia, mainly Southeast Asia (Nguyen & Carpenter, 2016; Gusenleitner, 2006, 2008, 2011; Nguyen & Kojima, 2014; Nguyen & Lee, 2017; Selis, 2018a, b; Nguyen et al., 2011, 2017, 2018; Nguyen, 2020; Kim, 2023; Xiao et al., 2025). Some of these species seemed to be described based on specimens purchased at international markets or collected by travelers, which might or might not have been exported with legal/official permission from the corresponding authorities. These 27 species were described under the 4th edition of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (hereafter “the Code”) (International Commission for Zoological Nomenclature - ICZN, 1999), which has been in force since 1 January 2000. When the availability of these names is assessed, particularly Article 16 would apply. Namely: (1) “Every new name published after 1999 [= from 1 January 2000] ... must be explicitly indicated as intentionally new” (Article 16.1); and (2) “Every new specific and subspecific name published after 1999 ... must be accompanied in the original publication” (Article 16.4) “by the explicit fixation of a holotype, or syntypes, for the nominal taxon” (Article 16.4.1.), “and, ... where the holotype or syntypes are extant specimens, by a statement of intent that they will be (or are) deposited in a collection and a statement indicating the name and location of that collection” (Article 16.4.2).

The present checklist is compiled and updated mainly with the taxonomic works and literature published after Carpenter (1996b) to promote further biodiversity researches, following international regulations on biological researches, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing (ABS) as well as the Code, mainly on Oriental species of the subgenus *Polistella*.

While we were compiling the present checklist, we have recognized that the proposal of “*Polistes (Polistella) daehanicus*” by Kim (2023) does not fulfil the Code’s requirement (Article 16.4.2) and the name is deemed a nomen nudum or unavailable. Kim (2023) mentioned of his materials examined as “Except for North Korean material... materials listed herein are housed in the author’s private collection. Vouchers including some of the types will be deposited in the National Institute of Biological Resources, S. Korea” (p. 909-910), but the location of his private collection is not mentioned nor is mentioned which type specimens, whether they include holotype or not, will have been deposited in the National Institute of Biological Resources.

Dr. Kim has supplied the description as given below (also see Article 13.1.2. of the Code):

Polistes (Polistella) daehanicus Kim, new species

The type specimens, diagnosis, description and etymology are all as those given in Kim (2023: 913–918, in “Taxonomic review of *Polistes (Polistella)* (Hymenoptera: Vespidae: Polistinae) in Korea, with a description of a new species and a new status” *Oriental Insects*, 57 (3): 908–934.).

The holotype female labelled “Cheongrim-ri, Sangseo-myeon, Buan-gun, JB, Kr, 2013.vii.23, J-K Kim” is deposited in the National Institute of Biological Resources (NIBR), Seo-gu, Incheon, S. Korea; and paratypes are in the author’s private collection at Dongnam Health University (DHU), Suwon, Gyeonggi-do, S. Korea.

METHODS

As the first step to compile the present checklist of species-group taxa (species and subspecies) in the subgenus *Polistella* of the genus *Polistes* other than continental Afrotropical and Malagasy species, we prepared the data on nomenclature, such as original citations, type localities and type depositories (acronym and city/town), and on distribution records, based on Carpenter

(1996b), together with those data on the species described after Carpenter (1996b). Then, the original citations and relevant literature giving distribution records of all species-group taxa were assessed for additional data.

Valid species-group taxa are listed in alphabetical order except those described as subspecies in the original citation or those reasonably treated as subspecies in a revisional work published after 1960 [see Article 15.2 and 45.6.4 of the Code], which are listed in combination with the corresponding nominotypical species. The information on the type localities, such as geographic coordinates and altitude, that is not mentioned in the original citation is also given, when the details of the type locality are specified. Distribution records given under “Distribution” are presented according to either geographical or administrative divisions. Each publication is cited in abbreviated form and is also listed in “REFERENCES”. Remarks on taxonomic problems or locality records are, if necessary, also given separately. The data on nomenclature of species-group taxa that are currently treated as synonyms (or invalid) are given in the format the same as in Carpenter (1996b).

All the species-group taxa known from either continental Afrotropics or Madagascar are restricted in their distribution to the respective region and no taxon has newly added after Carpenter (1996b), and they are listed at the end of this checklist with the data on nomenclature in the same format as in Carpenter (1996b).

Acronyms of depositories

AM: Australian Museum, Sydney, Australia; ANIC: Australian National Insect Collection, CSIRO, Canberra, Australia; BMNH: The Natural History Museum, London, UK; BPBM: Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, USA; CNU: Institute of Entomology and Molecular Biology, Chongqing Normal University, Chongqing, China; IEBR: Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology, Hanoi

[presently Institute of Biology], Vietnam; IUNH: Natural History Collection at Ibaraki University, Mito, Japan; KUFS: Faculty of Science, Kagoshima University, Kagoshima, Japan; MCZ: Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, Cambridge, USA; MHN: Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, Genève, Switzerland; MNHN: Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France; MSNVE: Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, Venezia, Italy; MV: Museums Victoria, Melbourne, Australia; NCIA: National Chiayi Institute of Agriculture, Chiayi, China; NHMW: Naturhistorisches Museum, Zoologische Abteilung, Wien, Austria; NIBR: National Institute of Biological Resources, Incheon, South Korea; NMSF: Natur-Museum Senckenberg, Frankfurt, Germany; NUS: National University of Singapore, Singapore; OLML: Oberösterreichischen Landesmuseums, Linz, Austria; OUM: Hope Entomological Collection, University Museum, Oxford, UK; RMNH: Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden, Netherlands; SAM: South Australian Museum, Adelaide, Australia; SEHU: Systematic Entomology, Hokkaido University Museum, Sapporo, Japan; SMNS: Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart, Germany; TARI: Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute, Wofeng, Taiwan; ZINS: Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russia; ZMA: Zoologisch Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands (collection now stored in RMNH); ZMUC: Zoological Museum, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark; ZSI: Zoological Survey of Indian Museum, Kolkata, India; ZSNHM: Zoologische Sammlung, Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien, Austria.

CHECKLIST OF THE SUBGENUS *POLISTELLA*

Order Hymenoptera

Family Vespidae Latreille, 1802

Subfamily Polistinae, Lepeletier, 1836

Tribe Polisitini Lepeletier, 1836

Genus *Polistes* Latreille, 1802

Subgenus *Pollistella* Ashmead, 1904

Polistella Ashmead, 1904, Proc. U. S. Natl. Mus. 28: 133, genus.

Type species: *Polistes manillensis* de Saussure, 1853, by original designation. [Misidentification of *Protopolybia sedula* (de Saussure, 1854) = *P. exigua* (de Saussure, 1854)].

Synonyms: *Stenopolistes* van der Vecht, 1972 (1971), Entomol. Essays to commemorate the retirement of Prof. K. Yasumatsu: 101, subgenus of *Polistes* Latreille. (Type species: *Polistes lateritius* Smith, 1857, by original designation).

adsimilis Nguyen and Carpenter, 2016

Polistes adsimilis Nguyen and Carpenter, 2016, Zootaxa 4088(4): 583, 588, 592 (key), figs. 18–27.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in IEBR (Hanoi).

Type locality: “Vietnam, Muong Fang, Dien Bien, 500 m” [21°26.5’N, 103°07’E].

Distribution: Northwestern Vietnam, Hainan in China (Nguyen & Carpenter, 2016; Xiao et al., 2025).

adustus Bingham, 1897

Polistes adustus Bingham, 1897, Fauna Br. India Hym. 1: 397.

Polistes sordidus Dover, 1925 (1924), J. Proc. Asiat. Soc. Bengal (N. S) 20: 303, nomen nudum.

Polistes adustus [!]: Yoshikawa, 1962, J. Biol. Osaka City Univ. 13: 20.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Syntypes (?) in BMNH (London).

Type locality: [India] “Sikkim, up to 6000 feet”.

Distribution: India: Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Uttaranchal, Sikkim, Meghalaya, West Bengal; Nepal; Bhutan; China (Nguyen et al., 2011; Nguyen & Carpenter, 2016; Xiao et al., 2025).

***affinis* Gusenleitner, 2006**

Polistes (Polistella) affinis Gusenleitner, 2006, Linz. Biol. Beitr. 38(1): 671, 672.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in OLML (Linz).

Type locality: “Laos, Phongsaly env., Prov. Phongsaly, 1500 m, 21°41–2’N, 102°06–8’E”

Distribution: Laos; Vietnam (Nguyen et al., 2011).

***angusticlypeus* Gusenleitner, 2006**

Polistes (Polistella) angusticlypeus Gusenleitner, 2006, Linz. Biol. Beitr. 38(1): 677, 680.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype male in OLML (Linz).

Type locality: “India: Shillong 33 km N, Meghalaya, 26°05’N 92°23’E” [Shillong in Meghalaya].

Distribution: India: Meghalaya (Gusenleitner, 2006).

***assamensis* Bingham, 1897**

Polistes assamensis Bingham, 1897, Fauna Br. India Hym. 1: 397.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Syntypes (?) in BMNH (London).

Type locality: [India] “Margherita, Assam (*Doherty*); Sikhim”.

Distribution: India: Sikkim, Assam (Das & Gupta, 1984, 1989).

***asterope arvidi* Petersen, 1990**

Polistes (Stenopolistes) asterope arvidi Petersen, 1990, Entomol. Scand. 21: 53, 61, fig. 17.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in ZMUC (København).

Type locality: “Bismarck Islands, Lavongai: ... Banatam”.

Distribution: Bismarck Archipelago: Lavongai (Petersen, 1990).

***asterope asterope* Cameron, 1901**

Polistes asterope Cameron, 1901, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond. 1901: 243.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Monotypic holotype (?) in BMNH (London) (?).

Type locality: “New Britain”.

Distribution: Bismarck Archipelago: New Britain (Petersen, 1990).

***asterope narupi* Petersen, 1990**

Polistes (Stenopolistes) asterope narupi Petersen, 1990, Entomol. Scand. 21: 53, 61, fig. 16.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype male in ZMUC (København).

Type locality: “Bismarck Islands, New Ireland: ... Lemkamin, 900 m” [ca. 03°20’S, 151°55’E].

Distribution: Bismarck Archipelago: New Ireland. (Petersen, 1990).

***bambusae bambusae* Richards, 1978**

Polistes bambusae Richards, 1978, Aust. J. Zool. (Suppl. Ser.) 61: 118.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in BMNH (London).

Type locality: “Morobe district, Wau, 4500 ft (1370 m)” [ca. 07°20’N, 146°63’E].

Distribution: Papua New Guinea (Richards, 1978).

***bambusae humboldti* Richards, 1978**

Polistes bambusae humboldti Richards, 1978, Aust. J. Zool. (Suppl. Ser.) 61: 120.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in BMNH (London).

Type locality: “Humboldt Bay (Teluk Irian) district, Bewani Mts.” [ca. 03°03’S, 141°15’E].

Distribution: Indonesia: Papua (Richards, 1978).

***brunetus* Nguyen and Kojima, 2014**

Polistes (Polistella) brunetus Nguyen and Kojima, 2014, *Zookeys* 368: 45, 52, 61 (key), figs. 2–17.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in IEBR (Hanoi).

Type locality: “Vietnam, Bac Kan: Kim Hi National Park, Lang San, Na Ri, 22°19’N, 105°54’E, 600–700 m”.

Distribution: Northeastern Vietnam; China: Guangxi, Yunnan, Guizhou (Nguyen & Kojima, 2014; Xiao et al., 2025)

***brunus* Nguyen and Carpenter, 2017**

Polistes (Polistella) brunus Nguyen and Carpenter, 2017, in Nguyen et al., *Raffles Bull. Zool.* 65: 269, 272, 278 (key), figs. 7–12.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in IEBR (Hanoi).

Type locality: “Vietnam, Dak Lak, Ea Kar, Ea So, Ea So NP station 5, 12°55’24.3”N, 108°33’04”E, 95 m”.

Distribution: Central Highlands Vietnam (Nguyen et al. 2017).

***buruensis* Petersen, 1990**

Polistes (Stenopolistes) buruensis Petersen, 1990, *Entomol. Scand.* 21: 53, 54 (key), 58, figs. 5, 13.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype male in RMNH (Leiden).

Type locality: “Moluccas, Buru: ... station 6” [ca. 03°30’S, 126°48’E].

Distribution: Indonesia: Moluccas (Buru) (Petersen, 1990).

***callimorpha* de Saussure, 1853**

Polistes callimorpha de Saussure, 1853, *Ét. Fam. Vesp.* 2: 71.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Syntypes (?) in MNHN (Paris).

Type locality: “L’île de Timor”.

Distribution: Indonesia: Timor, Sumba, (?) Moluccas (Kei) (Saito et al., 2005).

***caobangensis* Nguyen, 2020**

Polistes nipponensis; Nguyen, 2017, *Raffles Bull. Zool.* 65: 225. Misidentification.

Polistes (Polistella) caobangensis Nguyen, 2020, *Zootaxa* 4759 (2): 252, 253, figs. 1–10.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in IEBR (Hanoi).

Type locality: “Vietnam, Phia Oac, Pha Den, Nguyen Binh, Cao Bang, 22°35’07.7”N, 105°51’59.8”E, alt. 900–1100 m”.

Distribution: Northeastern Vietnam; China: Guizhou (Nguyen, 2017; Xiao et al., 2025).

***capnodes capnodes* van der Vecht, 1972**

Polistes (Stenopolistes) capnodes van der Vecht, 1972 (1971), *Entomol. Essays* to commemorate the retirement of Prof. K. Yasumatsu: 102.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in BPBM (Honolulu).

Type locality: “Guadalcanal: ... Gold Ridge, 500 m” [ca. 09°35’S, 160°08’E].

Distribution: Solomon Is.: Guadalcanal (van der Vecht, 1972).

***capnodes incomptus* van der Vecht, 1972**

Polistes (Stenopolistes) capnodes incomptus van der Vecht, 1972 (1971), *Entomol. Essays* to commemorate the retirement of Prof. K. Yasumatsu: 104.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in BPBM (Honolulu).

Type locality: “Malaita ... Tangatalau, 150–200 m” [ca. 08°44’S, 160°44’E].

Distribution: Solomon Is.: Malaita (van der Vecht, 1972).

***capnodes quadrifasciatus* van der Vecht, 1972**

Polistes (*Stenopolistes*) *capnodes quadrifasciatus* van der Vecht, 1972 (1971), Entomol. Essays to commemorate the retirement of Prof. K. Yasumatsu: 104.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in BPBM (Honolulu).

Type locality: “Kolombangara: ... Pepele, 30 m” [ca. 08°00’S, 157°05’E].

Distribution: Solomon Is.: Kolombangara, New Georgia (van der Vecht, 1972).

***celebensis* Selis, 2018**

Polistes (*Polistella*) *celebensis* Selis, 2018a, Zootaxa 4508 (3): 435, figs. 1–5.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in MSNVE (Venezia).

Type locality: “Sulawesi, Maros/Bantimurung Nat. Park.” [ca. 05°01’S, 119°40’E].

Distribution: Sulawesi I.: South Sulawesi, Southeast Sulawesi (Selis, 2018; Handru et al., 2020).

***chuyangsin* Nguyen and Nguyen, 2018**

Polistes (*Polistella*) *chuyangsin* Nguyen and Nguyen, 2018, in Nguyen et al., Zootaxa 4402 (2): 323, 324, 332 (key), figs. 1–12.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in IEBR (Hanoi).

Type locality: “Vietnam, Chu Yang Sin NP, Krong Kmar, Krong Bong, Dak Lak, 1080 m, 12°25’02.8”N, 108°11’30.8”E.

Distribution: Central Highlands, Vietnam (Nguyen & Nguyen, 2018).

***clandestinus* Nguyen, Kojima and Saito, 2011**

Polistes (*Polistella*) *clandestinus* Nguyen, Kojima and Saito, 2011, Zootaxa 3060: 1, 19, figs. 61–74.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in IEBR (Hanoi) [in original citation IUNH as long-term loan from IEBR].

Type locality: “VIETNAM, Sa Pa NP office, Lao Cai, 1600 m” [currently Hoang Lien NP, 22°20’19”N, 103°49’57”E]

Distribution: Northwestern Vietnam (Nguyen et al., 2011).

***clavicornis* van der Vecht, 1972**

Polistes (*Stenopolistes*) *clavicornis* van der Vecht, 1972 (1971), Entomol. Essays to commemorate the retirement of Prof. K. Yasumatsu: 105.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in BPBM (Honolulu).

Type locality: “Bougainville: ... Simba Mission”.

Distribution: Solomon Is.: Bougainville, Choiseul, Santa Isabel (van der Vecht, 1972).

***communalis* Nguyen, Vu and Carpenter, 2017**

Polistes communalis Nguyen, Vu and Carpenter, 2017, in Nguyen et al., Raffles Bull. Zool. 65: 269, 274, 278 (key), figs. 13–21.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in IEBR (Hanoi).

Type locality: “Vietnam, Son La, Phu Yen, Gia Phu, Vo Nguyen Giap forest, 21°13’07.9”N, 104°32’39.7”E, 350 m”.

Distribution: Northwestern Vietnam; China: Yunnan (Nguyen et al., 2017; Xiao et al., 2025)

***contrarius* Cheesman, 1951**

Polistes contrarius Cheesman, 1951, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (12) 4: 985.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in BMNH (London).

Type locality: “Papua, Mondo, 5000 ft.” [ca. 06°02’S, 145°09’E].

Distribution: Mondo, Mafulu in Papua New Guinea (Cheesman, 1951).

curcipunctum Nguyen, Kojima and Saito, 2011.

Polistes (Polistella) curcipunctum Nguyen, Kojima and Saito, 2011, Zootaxa 3060: 1, 15, figs. 47–53.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in IEBR (Hanoi) [in original citation IUNH as long-term loan from IEBR].

Type locality: “Vietnam, Tam Dao NP, Vinh Phuc, 800 m” [ca. 21°25’N, 105°37.5’E].

Distribution: Vietnam; China: Guizhou (Nguyen et al., 2011; Xiao et al., 2025).

***daehanicus* Kim, 2026**

Polistes daehanicus Kim, 2023, Or. Ins. 57 (3): 908, 913, 930 (key), figs. 2A–E, 3C, 4, nomen nudum.

Polistes daehanicus Kim, 2026, in Nguyen et al. Acad. J. Biol. 48 (1): (111–141) (validation).

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female labelled “Cheongrim-ri, Sangseo-myeon, Buan-gun, JB, Kr, 2013.vii.23, J-K Kim” in NIBR (Incheon).

Type locality: [Korea] “Cheongrim-ri, Sangseo-myeon, Buan-gun” [ca. 35°40’N, 126°38’E].

Distribution: Korea (Kim, 2023).

***dawnae* Dover and Rao, 1922**

Polistes dawnae Dover and Rao, 1922, J. Proc. Asiat. Soc. Bengal (n. s.) 18: 248.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in ZSI (Kolkata).

Type locality: “Dawna Hills, 2,000–3,000 ft., L. Burma” [ca. 17°10’N, 98°05’E].

Distribution: Myanmar; Vietnam; Laos; India: Arunachal Pradesh; China: Yunnan (Xiao et al., 2025).

***delhiensis* Das and Gupta, 1989**

Polistes delhiensis Das and Gupta, 1984, Orient. Insect. 17: 410, nomen nudum.

Polistes (Stenopolistes) delhiensis Das and Gupta, 1989, Orient. Insect. Monogr. 11: 63, figs. 21a, 21d, 21i.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in ZSI (Kolkata).

Type locality: “India: Delhi”.

Distribution: India: Delhi; Vietnam; China: Guizhou (Das and Gupta, 1989; Xiao et al., 2025).

***diakonovi* Kostylev, 1940**

Polistes diakonovi Kostylev, 1940, Bull. Soc. Nat. Moscou, Sect. Biol 49: 139.

Polistes djakonovi [!]; Choi et al., 2013, Kor. J. Appl. Entomol. 52 (2): 87.

Polistes (Polistella) mandarinus diakonovi; Kim, 2023, Or. Ins. 57 (3): 920.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in ZINS (St. Petersburg).

Type locality: “Vinogradovka, prov. Oussouri” [=Vinogradovka, Primorsky Krai; ca. 47°26’N, 134°30’E].

Distribution: Russia: Ussuri; Korea (Kim, 2023).

Remarks: Based mainly on “very short genetic distance” in DNA (COI) barcoding using specimens from Korea for *P. diakonovi* and from Vietnam for *P. mandarinus*, Kim (2023) treated *P. diakonovi* as a subspecies of *P. mandarinus*. As we consider further intensive study for the taxonomy of the *P. mandarinus*-complex based on the specimens from the type localities including name-bearing type specimens of respective species is needed, *P. diakonovi* is listed as a species in this checklist.

***eboshinus* Sonan, 1943**

Polistes mandarinus var. *eboshinus* Sonan, 1943, Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc. Taiwan 33 (242–243): 483.

Polistes ebsohinus [!]; Carpenter, 1986, Amer. Mus. Novitates 3188:11.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Lectotype female by designation of Kojima et al. (2011) in TARI (Wofeng).

Type locality: [Taiwan] “Taiheizan” [=Taipingshan; 24°30’N, 121°32’E; see Kojima et al. (2011)].

Distribution: Taiwan (Starr, 1992; Kojima et al., 2011).

***elegans* Smith, 1859**

Polistes elegans Smith, 1859, J. Proc. Linn. Soc., Zool. 3 (11): 169.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Syntypes (?) in OUM (Oxford).

Type locality: “Aru; Key Island”.

Distribution: Indonesia: Moluccas (Aru, Kei); Humbolt Bay; Pukusan District; Papua New Guinea: Kokoda (Cheesman, 1951).

***ephippium* Cameron, 1900**

Polistes ephippium Cameron, 1900, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (7) 6: 415.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in OUM (Oxford).

Type locality: [India] “Khasia Hills” [ca. 25.5°N, 91°E].

Distribution: India: Meghalaya (Das & Gupta, 1989).

***esperanzae* Selis, 2018**

Polistes (Polistella) esperanzae Selis, 2018, Zootaxa 4531 (4): 507, 512, 530 (key), figs. 12–21.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype male in MSNVE (Venezia).

Type locality: “PH—Mindanao, Agusan, Esperanza”.

Distribution: Philippines: Luzon, Mindanao, Samar (Selis, 2018).

***extraneus* Kirby, 1883**

Polistes extraneus Kirby, 1883, Proc. Zool. Soc. London 1883: 344.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Monotypic holotype in BMNH (London) (?)

Type locality: “Maroe” [ca. 06°52’S, 131°29’E].

Distribution: Indonesia: Maru (Kirby, 1883).

***flavitarsis* Selis, 2018**

Polistes flavitarsis Selis, 2018, Zootaxa 4531 (4): 507, 515, 530 (key), figs. 22–31.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype male in MSNVE (Venezia)

Type locality: “PH—Mindanao, Cotabato, Kidapawan”.

Distribution: Philippines: Mindanao (Selis, 2018).

***flavobilineatus* (Cameron, 1902)**

Icaria flavo-bilineata Cameron, 1902, J. Straits Asiat. Soc. 37: 102.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Monotypic holotype in BMNH (?).

Type locality: “Kuching, Sarawak” [ca. 01°33.5’N, 110°20.5’E].

Distribution: Myanmar; Thailand; Malaysia (including Sarawak) (Dover, 1931).

***formosanus* Sonan, 1927**

Polistes formosanus Sonan, 1927, Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc. Formosa 17: 122.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Lectotype female by designation of Saito et al. (2007) in TARI (Wofeng).

Type locality: “Taihoku” [=Taipei; ca. 25°03’N, 121°32’E]

Synonyms:

Polistes hengchunensis Kuo, 1987, in Kuo and Yeh, J. Natl. Chiayi Inst. Agric. 16: 81. -

Kuo and Yeh, 1987, J. Natl. Chiayi Inst. Agric. 16: 82 (*hengchun* [!]). Female, male - “Hengchun” [ca. 22°00’N, 120°45’E] (Holotype male in NCIA (Chiayi)).

Polistes shekouensis Kuo, 1987, in Kuo and Yeh, J. Natl. Chiayi Inst. Agric. 16: 82. Female, male - “Shekou” [ca. 24°15’N, 120°40.5’E] (Holotype male in NCIA (Chiayi)).

Distribution: Japan: Ryukyu Is.; Taiwan (Saito et al., 2007; Kojima et al., 2011).

Remarks: Starr (1992), accepting Sonan’s (1938, 1943) synonymy of *P. formosanus* with *P. japonicus*, synonymized *P. hengchunensis* and *P. shekouensis* with *P. japonicus*. Both *P. formosanus* and *P. japonicus* occur in southern parts of Taiwan (Saito et al., 2007) and taxonomic status of *P. hengchunensis* and *P. shekouensis* needs further intensive study.

***gilvus* Nguyen, Kojima and Saito, 2011**

Polistes (Polistella) gilvus Nguyen, Kojima and Saito, 2011, Zootaxa 3060: 1, 17, figs. 54–60, 88.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Female holotype in IBER (Hanoi).

Type locality: “Vietnam, Co Ma, Thuan Chau, Son La, 1600 m” [21°21’59.4”N, 103°30’56.3”E].

Distribution: Northwestern Vietnam (Nguyen et al., 2011).

***horrendus* Gusenleitner, 2006**

Polistes (Polistella) horrendus Gusenleitner, 2006, Linz. Biol. Beitr. 38(1): 671.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in OLML (Linz).

Type locality: “Laos, Phongsaly env., Prov. Phongsaly, 1500 m, 21°41–2’N, 102°06–8’E”.

Distribution: Laos; Vietnam; China: Xizang (Xiao et al., 2025).

***huisunensis* Kuo, 1987**

Polistes huisunensis Kuo, 1987, in Kuo and Yeh, J. Natl. Chiayi Inst. Agric. 16: 80.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype male in NCIA (Chiayi).

Type locality: “Huisun” [Huisun Forest; ca. 24°05’N, 121°02’E].

Distribution: Taiwan (Starr, 1992).

***humilis centrocontinentalis* Giordani Soika, 1975**

Polistes humilis centrocontinentalis Giordani Soika, 1975, Boll. Soc. Entomol. Ital. 107: 20.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in MSNVE (Venezia).

Type locality: “Australia centrale”.

Distribution: central Australia (Giordani Soika, 1975).

***humilis humilis* (Fabricius, 1781)**

Vespa humilis Fabricius, 1781, Spec. Insect. 1: 461.

Sex(es) described: Not stated.

Name-bearing type specimen: Lectotype male by designation of Richards (1978: 43) in BMNH (London).

Type locality: “in nova Hollandia”.

Synonyms:

Polistes Tasmaniensis de Saussure, 1853, Ét. Fam. Vesp. 2: 66, pl. VI fig. 6. Female, male - “La Nouvelle-Hollande” (lectotype female by designation of Richards (1978: 43) in MNHN (Paris)).

Polistes Tricolor de Saussure, 1853, Ét. Fam. Vesp. 2: 67. Female - “La Nouvelle-Hollande” (Monotypic holotype in BMNH (London)). Junior secondary homonym of *Polistes tricolor* (Fabricius, 1775).

Polistes humilis pseudoschach Giordani Soika, 1975, Boll. Soc. Entomol. Ital. 107: 21. Female - “N. S. Wales: Dubbo” (Holotype in AM (Sydney)); also from another locality; and Qld.

Distribution: Australia: Queensland, New South Wales, A. C. T., Victoria, South

Australia; adventive in New Zealand (Richards, 1978).

***humilis synoecus* de Saussure, 1853**

Polistes Synoecus de Saussure, 1853, Ét. Fam. Vesp. 2: 65, pl. VI fig. 6.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Lectotype male by designation of Richards (1978: 46) in MNHN (Paris).

Type locality: “La Nouvelle-Hollande”.

Synonyms:

Polistes variabilis var. *reginae* Meade-Waldo, 1911, Ann. Nat. Hist. (8) 7: 101, 104 (key). female - “Cooktown, N. Queensland” (Holotype in BMNH (London)).

Polistes humilis xanthorrhoeicus Giordani Soika, 1975, Boll. Soc. Entomol. Ital. 107: 21. female - “North Queensland” (Holotype in BMNH (London)). - Richards, 1978, Aust. J. Zool. (Suppl. Ser.) 61: 46 (*xanthorrhoeicus* [!]).

Polistes humilis clarior Giordani Soika, 1975, Boll. Soc. Entomol. Ital. 107: 22. female - “North Queensland” (Holotype in BMNH (London)).

Distribution: Australia: Northern Territory, Queensland, adventive in Western Australia; French Polynesia (Richards, 1978).

***intermedius* Kojima, 1988**

Polistes medius Kojima, 1988, in Kojima and Kojima, J. Aust. Entomol. Soc. 27: 74. Junior primary homonym of *Polistes medius* Palisot de Beauvois, 1818.

Polistes intermedius Kojima, 1996, in Carpenter, Am. Mus. Novitat. 3188: 1, 12. Replacement name for *Polistes medius* Kojima, 1988, non Palisot de Beauvois, 1818.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in ANIC (Canberra).

Type locality: “PAPUA NEW GUINEA ... Wau, 1300 m” [ca. 07°20’S, 146°43’E]

Distribution: Morobe district in Papua New Guinea (Kojima & Kojima, 1988).

***japonicus* de Saussure, 1858**

Polistes japonicus de Saussure, 1858, Rev. Mag. Zool. (2) 10: 260.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Lectotype by designation of Kojima (1997) in MHN (Genève).

Type locality: “le Japon”.

Synonym:

Polistes erythrocerus Cameron, 1900, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (7) 6: 418. Female - “Kamakura, Japan” (lectotype by designation of Kojima & Hagiwara (1998) in BMNH (London)).

Distribution: China: Hong Kong; Korea; Japan (from Osumi Islands in the south to Honshu Island in the north); Taiwan; Vietnam (Saito et al., 2007; Nguyen & Kojima, 2014).

***khasianus* Cameron, 1900**

Polistes khasianus Cameron, 1900, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (7) 6: 413.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in OUM (Oxford).

Type locality: [India] “Khasia Hills” [25°07’~25°51’N, 90°44’~92°09’E].

Distribution: India: Haryana, Meghalaya, West Bengal; Vietnam (Das & Gupta, 1989; Gusenleitner, 2006; Nguyen & Carpenter, 2016).

***laevigatissimus* Giordani Soika, 1975**

Polistes laevigatissimus Giordani Soika, 1975, Boll. Soc. Entomol. Ital. 107: 25.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in AM (Sydney).

Type locality: “NW Australia: Lombardia, Broome” [ca. 17°57’S, 122°14’E]

Distribution: Australia: Western Australia (Richards, 1978).

***lateritius* Smith, 1857**

Polistes lateritius Smith, 1857, Cat. Hym. Br. Mus. 5, Vesp.: 103.

Polistes lateritus [!]; Yoshikawa, 1962, J. Biol., Osaka Univ. 13: 30.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Syntype(s) in BMNH (London)

Type locality: “Ceram”.

Synonym:

Polistes colonicus Smith, 1860, Proc. Linn. Soc. London, Zool. 5 Suppl.: 129. Male - “Amboyna” (BMNH (London)).

Distribution: Indonesia: Moluccas (Ambon, Ceram, Saparua) (Petersen, 1990).

***latinis* Das and Gupta, 1989**

Polistes latinis Das and Gupta, 1984, Orient. Insect. 17: 412, nomen nudum.

Polistes latinis Das and Gupta, 1989, Orient. Insect. Monogr. 11: 79.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in ZSI (Kolkata).

Type locality: “India: South Andaman: Magarnallah: Forest Check Post” [possibly Magar Nallah on Great Nicobar; ca. 06°59.5’N, 93°54.5’E].

Distribution: India: Andaman Is.

***lepcha* Cameron, 1900**

Polistes khasianus Cameron, 1900, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (7) 6: 415. Junior primary homonym of *Polistes khasianus* Cameron, 1900: 413.

Polistes lepcha Cameron, 1900, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (7) 6: 506 [replacement name for *khasianus* Cameron, 1900: 415, non Cameron, 1900: 413].

Polistes klepcha [!]; Yoshikawa, 1962, J. Biol. Osaka City Univ. 13: 30.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in OUM (Oxford).

Type locality: [India] “Khasia Hills” [25°07’~25°51’N, 90°44’~92°09’E].

Distribution: India: Haryana, Meghalaya, Manipur; Laos; Vietnam (Nguyen et al., 2011; Gusenleitner, 2011).

***lycus* Cameron, 1901**

Polistes lycus Cameron, 1901, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond. 1901: 242.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen:

Type locality: “New Britain”.

Distribution: Bismarck Archipelago: New Britain, New Ireland (Petersen, 1990).

***mandarinus* de Saussure, 1853**

Polistes mandarinus de Saussure, 1853, Ét. Fam. Vesp. 2: 58.

Polistes mandarinus [!]; Pérez, 1905, Bull. Mus. Hist. Nat. Paris 11: 82.

Polistes mandariniensis [!]; Zimmermann, 1931, Zeitschr. Morphol. Ökol. Tiere 22: 230.

Polistes mandarinus; Ma, 1936, Entomol. Phytopath. 4: 65.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Lectotype by designation of Kojima (1997) in BMNH (London).

Type locality: “Le norde de la Chine”.

Synonym:

Polistes megei Pérez, 1905, Bull. Mus. Hist. Nat. Paris 11: 83 (*mandarinus* [!]) Female, “Kouéy-Tchéou” [= Kiao-chau Bay, China; ca. 36°07.5’N, 120°15’E] (type depository unknown).

Distribution: China; Vietnam (Nguyen & Kojima, 2014).

Remarks: The taxonomic status of *P. megei* is yet uncertain (Kojima, 1997: 25). Treating *P. diakonovi* Kostylev, 1940 as a subspecies of *P. mandarinus*, Kim (2023) recorded *P. mandarinus* from Korea.

***meadeanus* (von Schulthess, 1913)**

Parapolybia meadeana von Schulthess, 1913, Mitt. Schweiz. Entomol. Ges. 12: 161.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Syntype females and male in BMNH (London).

Type locality: “Kina Balu, Borneo ... Perak ..., Sarawak”

Synonyms:

Polybia andrei du Buysson, 1913, Bull. Soc. Entomol. France 1913: 296. Male - “Malacca: Péraç” (MNHN (Paris)); synonymized by van der Vecht (1966).

Polybia shelfordi du Buysson, 1913, Bull. Soc. Entomol. France 1913: 297. Female - “Kuching (Borneo)” (OUM (Oxford)); synonymized by van der Vecht (1966).

Distribution: Vietnam; Malaysia (including Sabah, Sarawak); Indonesia: Kalimantan (van der Vecht, 1966; Nugroho et al., 2011; Nguyen, 2014).

***melanopterus* Cameron, 1911**

Polistes melanopterus Cameron, 1911, Nova Guinea, Zool. 9 (2), Zool.: 187.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in ZMA (Amsterdam)

Type locality: “Lorentz River” [ca. 04°15’S, 138°40’E].

Distribution: Indonesia: Papua (Cameron, 1911).

***mertoni* du Buysson, 1913**

Polistes mertoni du Buysson, 1913 (1911), Abhand. Senckenberg. Naturforsch. Ges. 34: 227.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: NMSF (Frankfurt)

Type locality: “Aru, Kobroor” [Kobroor Island in Aru Islands; ca. 06°07’N, 134°36’E]

Distribution: Indonesia: Moluccas (Aru) (du Buysson, 1913).

***motuoensis* Xiao, Chen and Li, 2025**

Polistes (Polistella) motuoensis Xiao, Chen and Li, 2025, J. Asia-Pacif. Entomol. 28.: 1, 3, figs. 1–8.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in CNU (Chongqing).

Type locality: “China, Xizang Autonomous Region, Nyingchi City, Metuo County, 29.325°N, 99.332°E, 1117 m”

Distribution: China: Xizang (Xiao et al., 2025).

***nigerrimus* Gusenleitner, 2006**

Polistes (Polistella) nigerrimus Gusenleitner, 2006, Linz. Biol. Beitr. 38 (1): 671, 674.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in OLML (Linz).

Type locality: “Vietnam, Tam Dao, Vinh Phuc Province” [ca. 21°27’N 105°38’E].

Distribution: Vietnam (Gusenleitner, 2006).

Remarks: In the original citation (Gusenleitner, 2006) the type locality mentioned is “Vietnam, Phongsaly, Tam Dao, Vinh Phu Province”. “Phongsaly” is the capital of Phongsaly Province in Laos and the type locality for *Polistes affinis* and *P. horrendes* described in the same paper as for this species, and thus “Phongsaly” was mentioned by error as the type locality of this species. The type locality of *Polistes nigerrimus* has accordingly been corrected as above (for the correction of erroneous statement of a type locality, see Recommendation 76A.2 of the Code).

***nigrifrons nigrifrons* Smith, 1859**

Polistes nigrifrons Smith, 1859, J. Proc. Linn. Soc., Zool. 3 (11): 168.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in OUM Oxford (?).

Type locality: “Aru”.

Distribution: Indonesia: Moluccas (Aru), Papua (Waigeo); New Guinea. (Carpenter, 1996b).

***nigrifrons obdurus* Cheesman, 1951**

Polistes nigrifrons obdurus Cheesman, 1951, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (12) 4: 989.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in BMNH.

Type locality: “Dutch New Guinea, Humboldt Bay, Njaulimon” [Humboldt Bay = Yos Sudarso Bay: ca. 02°35’N, 140°45’E]

Distribution: Indonesia: Papua (Cheesman, 1951).

Remarks: “Njaulimon” (or “Ningerum”, “Ninggerum”) is the name for the people of one of the ethnic groups living around the border between Papua New Guinea and Papua Province of Indonesia; the type locality of this taxon may be somewhere in Jayapura.

***nigrifrons stotheri* Meade-Waldo, 1916**

Polistes stotheri Meade-Waldo, 1916 in Turner et al., Rep. Coll. Br. Ornithol. Union Exped. Dutch New Guinea 1 (10): 14, pl. I fig. 9.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in BMNH (London).

Type locality: [New Guinea] “Base Camp, sea-level, Setakwa River” [=Utakwa River ca. 05°00’S, 137°25’E; see Ballard (2001)].

Distribution: Indonesia: Papua (Turner et al., 1916).

***nigritarsis* Cameron, 1900**

Polistes nigritarsis Cameron, 1900, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (7) 6: 413.

Sex(es) described: Male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in OUM (Oxford).

Type locality: [India] “Barrackpore, Bengal” [ca. 22°46’N, 88°20.5’E].

Distribution: India: West Bengal, Meghalaya, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu; Bhutan; Vietnam; China (Das & Gupta, 1989; Gusenleitner, 2006; Nguyen & Kojima, 2013; Dorji et al., 2017).

***nipponensis* Pérez, 1905**

Polistes nipponensis Pérez, 1905, Bull. Mus. Hist. Nat. Paris 2: 82.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in MNHN (Paris).

Type locality: “JAPON CENTRAL ... Yokohama” [ca. 35°30’N, 139°30’E].

Synonym:

Polistes yamanakai Sonan, 1937, Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc. Formosa 27 (166): 169. Female, male - “Tokyo” (Holotype female in TARI (Wofeng)).

Distribution: China; Korea; Japan; Vietnam (Kojima, 1997; Nguyen et al., 2011; Choi et al., 2013).

***occultus* Kojima, 1988**

Polistes occultus Kojima, 1988, in Kojima and Kojima, J. Aust. Entomol. Soc. 27: 76.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in ANIC (Canberra).

Type locality: “PAPUA NEW GUINEA...Mt. Kaindi, 1600 m” [ca. 07°20’S, 146°40’E].

Distribution: Papua New Guinea (Kojima & Kojima, 1988).

***opacus* Gusenleitner, 2006**

Polistes (Polistella) opacus Gusenleitner, 2006, Linz. Biol. Beitr. 38 (1): 677, 681.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in SMNS (Stuttgart).

Type locality: “India: Paykong, W-Sikkim, ... 27°15’N, 88°35’E”.

Distribution: India: Sikkim, West Bengal; Laos (Gusenleitner, 2011).

***paco* Nguyen, Kojima and Saito, 2011**

Polistes (Polistella) paco Nguyen, Kojima and Saito, 2011, Zootaxa 3060: 1, 14, figs. 42–46.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in IEBR (Hanoi).

Type locality: “Vietnam, Pa Co, Mai Chau, Hoa Binh, 1000 m” [20°44’20”N, 104°55’06”E].

Distribution: Northwestern Vietnam (Nguyen et al., 2011).

***pallidus* Gusenleitner, 2011**

Polistes (Polistella) pallidus Gusenleitner, 2011, Linz. Biol. Beitr. 43(2): 1355, figs. 1–4.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in OLML (Linz).

Type locality: “Laos, Hua Phan Prov., Phou Pan (Mt.), Ban Saleui (Village), 1350–1900 m, 20°13’30”N, 103°59’26”E

Distribution: Laos; Vietnam (Gusenleitner, 2011; Nguyen & Carpenter, 2016).

***philippinensis* de Saussure, 1853**

Polistes philippinensis de Saussure, 1853, Ét. Fam. Vesp. 2: 58.

Polistes philippinensis [!]; Meade-Waldo, 1911, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (8) 7: 102.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in BMNH (London).

Type locality: “Les Philippines”.

Synonym:

Polistes sagittarius var. (or subsp.) *funebri* Bequaert, 1940, Trans. Am. Entomol. Soc. 66: 269. Female, male - “Los Banos, Luzon, Philippine Islands” (holotype female MCZ Cambridge); also from six other localities [Synonymized by Selis (2018)].

Distribution: Philippines: Luzon, Mindanao, Mindoro, Samar (Selis, 2018).

***praenotatus* Kohl, 1908**

Polistes praenotatus Kohl, 1908, Denkschr. Akad. Wiss., Wien 81: 311.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Syntypes in NHMW (Wien).

Type locality: “Solomo-Insel”.

Distribution: Solomon Is. (Kohl, 1908).

***quadricingulatus* Gusenleitner, 2006**

Polistes (Polistella) quadricingulatus Gusenleitner, 2006, Linz. Biol. Beitr. 38(1): 677, 683.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in OLML (Linz).

Type locality: “N-India: Bhimtal, 1500 m” [ca. 29°21’N, 79°34’E]

Distribution: Pakistan; India: Jammu and Kashmir, Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh; Nepal; Laos (Gusenleitner, 2011).

***relicinicypeus* Nguyen, Kojima and Saito, 2011**

Polistes (Polistella) relicinicypeus Nguyen, Kojima and Saito, 2011, Zootaxa 3060: 1, 9, figs. 27–41, 87.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in IEBR (Hanoi) [in original citation IUNH (Mito) as long-term loan from IEBR].

Type locality: “VIETNAM, Binh Lu, Phong Tho, Lai Chau, 22°21’N, 103°43.5’E, alt. 1600 m”.

Distribution: Northwestern Vietnam (Nguyen et al., 2011).

***riekii* Richards, 1978**

Polistes (Stenopolistes) riekii Richards, 1978, Aust. J. Zool. (Suppl. Ser.) 61: 8 (key), 23.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in ANIC (Canberra).

Type locality: “Australia: Queensland Q3, Iron Range”.

Distribution: Australia: Cape York Peninsula (Richards, 1978).

***rubellus* Gusenleitner, 2006**

Polistes (Polistella) rubellus Gusenleitner, 2006, Linz. Biol. Beitr. 38 (1): 677, 684.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: SMNS (Stuttgart).

Type locality: “India: Yuksam 8 km W-Sikkim” [Yuksam: ca. 27°22’N, 88°13’E].

Distribution: India: Sikkim; Nepal (Gusenleitner, 2006; Dvořák & Castro, 2007).

***rufodorsalis* Yamane and Kusigemati, 1985**

Polistes rufodorsalis Yamane and Kusigemati, 1985, Occas. Pap. Kagoshima Univ. Res. Center S. Pacif. 5: 77, figs. 3–8.

Sex(es) described: Male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in KUFS (Kagoshima) (?).

Type locality: “Ngaliyangetu, Mbanovu, Guadalcanal I., the Solomons” [ca. 09°18’S, 159°39’E].

Distribution: Solomon Is.: Guadalcanal (Yamane & Kusigemati, 1985).

***sagittarius* de Saussure, 1853**

Polistes sagittarius de Saussure, 1853, Ét. Fam. Vesp. 2: 56.

Polistes sagittarium [!]; Das and Gupta, 1989, Orient. Insect. Monogr. 11: 67.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Syntypes in MHN (Genève) and BMNH (London).

Type locality: “Les Indes-Orientales, la Chine”.

Synonyms:

Polistes sagittarius var (or subsp.) *indonesicus* Bequaert, 1940, Trans. Am. Entomol. Soc. 66: 267. Female, male - “Bandjar, Java” (holotype female in MCZ (Cambridge)); also from three other localities; and Bali; Celebes; Philippines.

Polistes strigosus baliensis Gusenleitner, 2000, Linzer Biol. Beitr. 37 (2): 939. Male, female (in subgenus *Polistella*) - “Indonesia, Bali, Nusa Dua Beach” (holotype male in OLML (Linz)); also from Celik.

Distribution: India: Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Kerala, Uttaranchal, Sikkim, West Bengal, Assam, Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura; Bangladesh; Nepal; China: Hong Kong; Myanmar; Thailand; Vietnam; Malaysia; Singapore; Indonesia: Sumatra, Kalimantan,

Java, Bali, Lombok, Flores, Sumbawa, Sumba, Sulawesi; Philippines: Palawan (Das & Gupta, 1989; Kojima & Yamane, 1990; Saito et al., 2005; Kojima et al., 2006; Mahmood et al., 2012; Nguyen & Kojima, 2014; Selis, 2018b).

***santoshae* Das and Gupta, 1989**

Polistes virendrai Das and Gupta, 1984, Orient. Insect. 17: 415, nomen nudum.

Polistes santoshae Das and Gupta, 1989, Orient. Insect. Monogr. 11: 72.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in ZSI (Kolkata).

Type locality: “INDIA: Meghalaya; Shillong, 1524m” [ca. 25°35’N, 91°53’E].

Distribution: India: Sikkim, Meghalaya; Nepal; Bhutan; Vietnam (Nguyen et al., 2011; Dorji et al., 2016).

***sgarambus* Giordani Soika, 1975**

Polistes sgarambus Giordani Soika, 1975, Boll. Soc. Entomol. Ital. 107: 24.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in AM (Sydney).

Type locality: [Australia] “N. Territory: E Alligator Riv., Oenpelli” [12°19’S, 133°03’E].

Distribution: Australia: Northern Territory (Richards, 1978).

***shirakii* Sonan, 1943**

Polistes shirakii Sonan, 1943, Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc. Taiwan 33 (242–243): 481.

Polistes shiraki [!]; Yoshikawa, 1962, J. Biol., Osaka Univ. 13: 36.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Lectotype female by designation of Kojima *et al.*, (2011: 50) in TARI (Wofeng).

Type locality: “Taihoku” [Taipei; 25°04’N, 121°31’E].

Distribution: Taiwan (Starr, 1992; Kojima et al., 2011).

***similis* Das and Gupta, 1989**

Polistes similis Das and Gupta, 1984, Orient. Insect. 17: 413, nomen nudum.

Polistes similis Das and Gupta, 1989, Orient. Insect. Monogr. 11: 72.

Sex(es) described: Female, Male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in ZSI (Kolkata).

Type locality: "INDIA: Meghalaya; Shillong" [ca. 25°35'N, 91°53'E]

Distribution: India: Meghalaya (Das & Gupta, 1984, 1989).

***simulatus halmaheirensis* Petersen, 1990**

Polistes (Stenopolistes) simulatus halmaheirensis Petersen, 1990, Entomol. Scand. 21: 53, 56 (key), 58, fig. 10.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype male in RMNH (Leiden).

Type locality: "Moluccas, Halmaheira ... Mt. Sembilan, 600 m".

Distribution: Indonesia: Moluccas (Halmaheira) (Petersen, 1990).

***simulatus morotaiensis* Petersen, 1990**

Polistes simulatus morotaiensis Petersen, 1990, Entomol. Scand. 21: 53, 56 (key), 58, fig. 11.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype male in BMNH (London).

Type locality: "Moluccas, Morotai ... Morty Is."

Distribution: Indonesia: Moluccas (Morotai) (Petersen, 1990).

***simulatus obiensis* Petersen, 1990**

Polistes simulatus obiensis Petersen, 1990, Entomol. Scand. 21: 53, 56 (key), 57, fig. 9.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype male in RMNH (Leiden).

Type locality: "Moluccas, Obi ... Obi Lake, 160–260 m".

Distribution: Indonesia: Moluccas (Obi) (Petersen, 1990).

***simulatus simulatus* Smith, 1860**

Polistes simulatus Smith, 1860, J. Proc. Linn. Soc., Zool. 5 Suppl.: 130.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Lectotype by designation of Petersen (1990: 56) in OUM (Oxford).

Type locality: "Bachian" [= Bacan in Moluccas; ca. 00°37'S, 127°31'E].

Distribution: Indonesia: Moluccas (Bacan, Kayoa) (Petersen, 1990).

***snelleni* de Saussure, 1862**

Polistes snelleni de Saussure, 1862, Stettin. Entomol. Ztg. 23: 140.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Lectotype by designation of Kojima & van Achterberg (1997) in RMNH (Leiden).

Type locality: "Japan"

Synonym:

Polistes puncticollis Morawitz, 1892, Horae Entomol. Soc. Ross. 26: 150. Female - "Sibiria orientali ... Potanin bel *Ust-Kirén*, unweit Kjachta" (ZINS (St. Petersburg)).

Polistes snelleni f. *nigrihumerus* Uchida, 1936, Biogeographica, Tokyo 1 (2): 69. Female, male "Hokkaido" (Lectotype female by designation of Kojima & Hagiwara (1998: 259) in SEHU (Sapporo)).

Distribution: Russia; Mongolia; China; Korea; Japan (Kim, 1980; Castro & Dvořák, 2009).

***stigma bernardii* Le Guillou**

Polistes bernardii Le Guillou, 1841, Ann. Soc. Entomol. Fr. 10: 321.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Depository of the monotypic holotype unknown, probably in MNHN (Paris).

Type locality: “Australie Septentrionale” [Northern Australia; Richards (1978) presumed it is in Northern Territory].

Synonyms:

Polistes richardsi Giordani Soika, 1975, Boll. Soc. Entomol. Ital. 107: 23. Female, male - [Australia] “N. Territory: Roper Riv.” (holotype female in SAM (Adelaide)).

Polistes (Polistella) bernardii duplicinctus Richards, 1978., Aust. J. Zool. (Suppl. Ser.) 61: 9 (key), 28. Female, male - [Australia] “Western Australia, Millstream, 117°04'E., 21°35'S” (holotype female in ANIC (Canberra)); also from five other localities.

Polistes (Polistella) bernardii insulae Richards, 1978, Aust. J. Zool. (Suppl. Ser.) 61: 9 (key), 30. Female, male - [Australia] “Queensland, Dauan I.” (holotype female in ANIC (Canberra)); also from four other localities; and New Guinea.

Distribution: Papua New Guinea; Australia: Western Australia, Northern Territory, Queensland; French Polynesia (Cheesman, 1928; Richards, 1978; Petersen, 1987).

***stigma galathea* Petersen, 1987**

Polistes stigma galathea Petersen, 1987, Entomol. Scand. 18: 227, 239, fig. 9.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female ZMUC (Copenhagen) København

Type locality: “India, NICOBAR IS. ... Little Nicobar” [ca. 07°20'N, 93°41'E].

Distribution: India: South Nicobar Is. (Petersen, 1987).

***stigma goestai* Petersen, 1987**

Polistes stigma goestai Petersen, 1987, Entomol. Scand. 18: 227, 255, fig. 18.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in ZMUC (Copenhagen) København.

Type locality: “Bismarck Islands, MUSSAU ... Malakata” [ca. 01°27'S, 149°37'E].

Distribution: Papua New Guinea: Mussau (Petersen, 1987).

***stigma jani* Petersen**

Polistes stigma jani Petersen, 1987, Entomol. Scand. 18: 227, 256, fig. 20.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in ZMUC (Copenhagen).

Type locality: “Admiralty Islands, MANUS ... Lorengau” [ca. 02°02'N, 147°16.5'E]

Distribution: Papua New Guinea: Manus (Petersen, 1987).

***stigma maculipennis* de Saussure, 1853**

Polistes maculipennis de Saussure, 1853, Ét. Fam. Vesp. 2: 61, pl. VI fig. 4.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Lectotype by designation of Petersen (1987: 247) in NMNH (Paris).

Type locality: [Indonesia] “Java” [type locality for the lectotype given in Petersen (1987); in original citation “Java et l’Afrique méridionale”].

Synonym:

Polistes multipictus Smith, 1860, Proc. Linn. Soc. London, Zool. 5 Suppl.: 130. Female - “Amboyna” (BMNH (London)). Junior primary homonym of *Polistes multipictus* Haliday, 1836.

Polistes stigma var. *thoracica* du Buysson, 1913 (1911), Abh. Senckenberg. Naturforsch. Ges. 34: 228. Male - “Aru, Kobroor” (BMNH (London)). Junior primary homonym of *Polistes thoracicus* Fox, 1898.

Polistes comis Cheesman, 1951, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (12) 4: 991. Female, male - “Papua, Owen Stanley Mts., Kokoda” (holotype female BMNH (London)).

Distribution: Indonesia: Moluccas (Aru, Ambon), Papua; Papua New Guinea (Petersen, 1987, Entomol. Scand. 18).

***stigma madsii* Petersen, 1987**

Polistes stigma madsii Petersen, 1987, Entomol. Scand. 18: 227, 254, fig. 17.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in ZMUC (Copenhagen).

Type locality: “Bismarck Islands, DYAUL ... Sumuna” [ca. 02°56’N, 150°53’E].

Distribution: Papua New Guinea: Dyaul (Petersen, 1987).

***stigma nebulosus* Yamane and Kusigemati, 1985**

Polistes stigma nebulosus Yamane and Kusigemati, 1985, Occas. Pap. Kagoshima Univ. Res. Center S. Pacif. 5: 77.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in KUFUS (Kagoshima) (?).

Type locality: “St. Martin, Chaombata, Guadalcanal I., the Solomons”.

Distribution: Solomon Is.: Guadalcanal; Fiji (Yamane & Kusigemati, 1985).

***stigma novarae* de Saussure**

Polistes novarae de Saussure, 1867, Reise Novara, Zool. 2 (1), Hym.: 19, pl. 1 figs. 13–14.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimens: Syntypes in NHMW (Wien).

Type locality: “Nicobaricus Insulis, in Sinu Bengalensi = Telluschong” [Tillanchong I.; ca. 08°30’N, 93°56’E].

Distribution: India: North Nicobar Is. (Petersen, 1987).

***stigma papuanus* Schulz, 1905**

Polistes marginalis papuanus Schulz, 1905, Berlin Entomol. Zeitschr. 49: 231.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Lectotype by designation of Richards (1978: 35) in BMNH (London).

Type locality: “New Britain: Keravat” [ca. 04°21’S, 152°02’E] for the lectotype; in the original citation “Neu-Pommern ... Kingunang”.

Distribution: Papua New Guinea: New Britain, Duke of York, New Ireland (Petersen, 1987).

***stigma pouli* Petersen, 1987**

Polistes stigma pouli Petersen, 1987, Entomol. Scand. 18: 227, 252, fig. 16.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in ZMUC (Copenhagen).

Type locality: “Bismarck Islands, LAVONGAI ... Banatam” [ca. 02°30’S, 150°15’E]

Distribution: Papua New Guinea: Lavongai (Petersen, 1987).

***stigma sauiensis* Petersen, 1987**

Polistes stigma sauiensis Petersen, 1987, Entomol. Scand. 18: 227, 240, fig. 10.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in NHMW (Wien).

Type locality: “India, NICOBAR IS. ... Sauti, Car Nicobar” [ca. 09°10’N, 92°47’E].

Distribution: India: Car Nicobar Is. (Petersen, 1987).

***stigma stigma* (Fabricius, 1793)**

Vespa stigma Fabricius, 1793, Entomol. Syst. 2: 275.

Sex(es) described: Not stated.

Name-bearing type specimen: Lectotype female by designation of Petersen (1987: 234) in ZMUC (Copenhagen).

Type locality: “in India orientali”.

Synonym:

Polistes manillensis de Saussure, 1853, Ét. Fam. Vesp. 2: 70. Male - “Les Philippines” (Holotype in BMNH (London)).

Polistes manillesis [!]: Yoshikawa, 1962, J. Biol., Osaka Univ. 13: 31.

Polistes dubius de Saussure, 1867, Reise Novara, Zool. 2 (1), Hym.: 20, pl. I fig. 15. Female, male - “Manila” (Lectotype female by designation of Petersen (1987: 245) in NHMW (Wien)).

Polistes stigma alagari Petersen, 1987, Entomol. Scand. 18: 227, 246, fig. 14. Female - “Philippines, TAWI TAWI ... Tarawakan” (Holotype in ZMUC (Copenhagen) København); also from another locality.

Distribution: Thailand; Vietnam; Malaysia; Singapore; Indonesia: Sumatra, Java, Bali, Lombok; China: Hong Kong; Taiwan; Philippines: Calicoan, Great Santa Cruz Island, Leyte, Luzon, Mindanao, Mindoro, Negros, Palawan, Panay, Tawi-Tawi (Dover, 1929; Petersen, 1987; Kojima & Yamane, 1990; Starr, 1992; Barthélémy et al., 2014; Selis, 2018).

***stigma svendi* Petersen, 1987**

Polistes stigma svendi Petersen, 1987, Entomol. Scand. 18: 227, 257, fig. 21.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in ZMUC (Copenhagen).

Type locality: “Admiralty Islands, LUF (Hermit Is.)” [ca. 01°30’N, 145°04’E].

Distribution: Papua New Guinea: Hermit Is. (Petersen, 1987).

***stigma tamulus* (Fabricius, 1798)**

Vespa tamula Fabricius, 1798, Suppl. Entomol. Syst.: 263.

Sex(es) described: Not stated.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in ZMUC (Copenhagen).

Type locality: “In India Orientali”.

Distribution: Pakistan; India: Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Bihar, West Bengal, Goa; Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu; Sri Lanka; Vietnam (Das & Gupta, 1989; Gusenleitner, 2006; Castro & Dvořák, 2009; Mahmood et al., 2012).

***stigma townsvillensis* Giordani Soika, 1975**

Polistes townsvillensis Giordani Soika, 1975, Boll. Soc. Entomol. Ital. 107: 22.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in MV (Melbourne).

Type locality: [Australia] “N. Queensland: Townsville” [19°15’S, 146°49’E].

Synonym:

Polistes (Polistella) townsvillensis austrinus Richards, 1978, Aust. J. Zool. (Suppl. Ser.) 61: 9 (key), 37. Female, male - [Australia] “Queensland Q1, Bundaberg” (holotype female in ANIC (Canberra)).

Distribution: Australia: Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria (Petersen, 1987).

***stigma tualensis* Petersen, 1987**

Polistes stigma tualensis Petersen, 1987, Entomol. Scand. 18: 227, 243, fig. 12.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in ZMUC (Copenhagen).

Type locality: “Indonesia, KAI IS.: ... Tual (= Toeal)” [ca. 05°40’S, 132°45’E].

Distribution: Indonesia: Moluccas (Kei) (Petersen, 1987).

***strigosus atratus* Das and Gupta, 1989**

Polistes strigosus atratus Das and Gupta, 1984, Orient. Insect. 17: 415, nomen nudum.

Polistes strigosus atratus Das and Gupta, 1989, Orient. Insect. Monogr. 11: 81.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in ZSI (Kolkata).

Type locality: “India: Tripura: Belonia” [ca. 23°15’N, 91°27’E].

Distribution: India: Delhi, Uttarakhand, Sikkim, Bihar, West Bengal, Assam, Manipur, Tripura, Kerala; Nepal (Das & Gupta, 1984, 1989).

***strigosus mimus* Bequaert, 1940**

Polistes strigosus var. (or subsp.) *mimus* Bequaert, 1940, Trans. Am. Entomol. Soc. 66: 272.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in MCZ (Cambridge).

Type locality: “Sibuyan Island, Philippines”.

Distribution: Nepal; Malaysia: Sabah; Philippines: Luzon, Mindanao, Mindoro, Negros, Samar, Sibuyan (Yamane & Yamane, 1979; Kojima & Yamane, 1984; Selis, 2015 (2014), 2018).

***strigosus strigosus* Bequaert, 1940**

Polistes strigosus Bequaert, 1940, Trans. Am. Entomol. Soc. 66: 269, fig. 1.

Polistes stigosus [!]; Das and Gupta, 1984, Orient. Insect. 17: 415

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in MCZ (Cambridge).

Type locality: “Wong-Sa-Shui, South Kwangsi, China”.

Distribution: India: Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal; China: Guangxi, Hong Kong; Taiwan; Laos; Vietnam (Nguyen & Kojima, 2014; Barthélémy et al., 2014).

***takasagonus* Sonan, 1943**

Polistes takasagonus Sonan, 1943, Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc. Taiwan 33 (242–243): 482.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Lectotype female by designation of Kojima et al., (2011: 50) in TARI (Wofeng).

Type locality: “Heichin” [Pingzhen, Taoyuan County; 24°56’N, 121°12’E, alt. 155 m].

Distribution: Taiwan (Starr, 1992; Kojima et al., 2011).

***tanimbaricus* Gusenleitner, 2008**

Polistes tanimbaricus Gusenleitner, 2008, Linz. Biol. Beitr. 40 (1): 765.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in LOML (Linz).

Type locality: “Indonesia, Tanimbar Islands, Yamdena Isl. 20 km NE Saumlaki, 150 m” [Saumlaki: ca. 07°58.5’S, 131°18.5’E].

Distribution: Indonesia: Tanimbar (Gusenleitner, 2008).

***tenebris* Nguyen and Lee, 2017**

Polistes tenebris Nguyen and Lee, 2017, in Nguyen et al., Raffles Bull. Zool. 65: 269, 276, 278 (key), figs. 22–30.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in NUS (Singapore).

Type locality: “Singapore, Tampines Street 41, 1°21’32.2”N, 103°56’41.9”E, 19 m”.

Distribution: Singapore; China: Yunnan (Nguyen et al., 2017; Xiao et al., 2025).

***tenuipunctatus* Selis, 2018**

Polistes (Polistella) tenuipunctatus Selis, 2018b, Zootaxa 4531 (4): 507, 525, 530 (key), figs. 54–62.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in OLML (Linz).

Type locality: “Philippines, Samar, Marabut” [ca. 11°06.5’N, 125°12.5’E].

Distribution: Philippines: Luzon, Samar (Selis, 2018b).

***utakwae* Meade-Waldo, 1916**

Polistes utakwae Meade-Waldo, 1916 (1915), in Turner et al., Rep. Coll. Brit. Ornithol. Union Exp. Wollaston Exp. Dutch New Guinea 1 (10): 13, pl. I fig. 8.

Sex(es) described: Female.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype in BMNH (London).

Type locality: [New Guinea] “Utakwa River, 2500–3000 ft.” [ca. 04~05°S, 136~137°E].

Distribution: Indonesia: Papua (Turner et al., 1916).

***variabilis* (Fabricius, 1781)**

Vespa variabilis Fabricius, 1781, Spec. Insect. 1: 466.

Sex(es) described: Not stated.

Name-bearing type specimen: Monotypic holotype male [see Richards (1978: 40)] in BMNH (London).

Type locality: “in nova Hollandia”.

Distribution: Australia: Queensland (Richards, 1978).

watutus Kojima, 1988

Polistes watutus Kojima, 1988, in Kojima and Kojima, J. Aust. Entomol. Soc. 27: 72.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in ANIC (Canberra).

Type locality: “PAPUA NEW GUINEA ... Wau, 1400 m” [ca. 07°20’S, 146°43’E].

Distribution: Morobe District in Papua New Guinea (Kojima & Kojima, 1988).

williamsi Petersen, 1990

Polistes williamsi Petersen, 1990, Entomol. Scand. 21: 53, 54 (key), 58, figs. 2, 6, 14.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype male in ZMUC (Copenhagen).

Type locality: “Philippines, Palawan: ... Mantalingajan Mts., Pinigisan, 600 m” [ca. 08°49’N, 117°40’E].

Distribution: Philippines: Luzon, Mindanao, Mindoro, Negros, Palawan, Panay, Polillo, Samar, Sibuyan (Petersen, 1990; Selis, 2015 (2014), 2018).

xantholeucus van der Vecht, 1984

Polistes xantholeucus van der Vecht, 1984, Nat. Hist. Rennell Is., Br. Solomon Is. 8: 171.

Sex(es) described: Female, male.

Name-bearing type specimen: Holotype female in BMNH (London).

Type locality: “RENNELL: ... Hutuna” [ca. 11°46’S, 160°26’E].

Distribution: Solomon Is.: Rennell, San Cristobal (van der Vecht, 1984).

Afrotropical species

aquilinus du Buysson, 1905

Polistes aquilinus du Buysson, 1905, Bull. Soc. Entomol. France 1905: 256.

Distribution: Sierra Leone; Liberia; Cameroon; Congo Republic; Congo (Bequaert, 1938).

bequaerti von Schulthess, 1921

Polistes bequaerti von Schulthess, 1921, Entomol. Mitt. 10: 123.

Distribution: Congo; Zambia (Bequaert, 1938).

defectivus Gerstaecker, 1871

Polistes defectivus Gerstaecker, 1871, Arch. Naturgesch. 37: 351.

Polistes waldoi Dover, 1926, Entomologist 59: 36.

Distribution: Congo; Ethiopia; Tanzania; Malawi; Zimbabwe; Mozambique; South Africa: Eastern Transvaal, Kwazulu-Natal, Western Cape Prov. (Bequaert, 1938; Giordani Soika, 1952).

ellenbergi du Buysson, 1908

Polistes ellenbergi du Buysson, 1908, Bull. Soc. Entomol. France 1908: 64.

Distribution: Liberia; Cameroon; Equatorial Guinea; Congo Republic (Bequaert, 1918, 1938).

fastidiosus de Saussure, 1853

Polistes fastidiosus de Saussure, 1853, Ét. Fam. Vesp. 2: male - “La Sénégalie” (BMNH (London)). - Wahis, 2000, Notes Fauniques Gembloux 41: 95 (*fastidiosus* [!]).

Distribution: Senegal; Guinea-Bissau; Ivory Coast; Benin; Burkina Faso; Nigeria; Congo; Sudan; Somalia; Saudi Arabia; Yemen; Kenya; Tanzania, including Zanzibar; Zambia; Mozambique; South Africa: Transvaal, Cape Prov. (Bequaert, 1938; Richards, 1985).

haugi du Buysson, 1906

Polistes haugi du Buysson, 1906, Bull. Soc. Entomol. France 1906: 189.

Distribution: Liberia; Nigeria; Cameroon; Equatorial Guinea; Congo Republic; Congo (Bequaert, 1938).

***madiburensis* von Schulthess, 1921**

Polistes madiburensis von Schulthess, 1921, Entomol. Mitt. 10: 124.

Polistes maniburesis [!]; Yoshikawa, 1962, J. Biol., Osaka Univ. 13: 31.

Distribution: Tanzania; Zambia; Zimbabwe (Bequaert, 1938).

***smithii neavei* von Schulthess, 1921**

Polistes smithii var. *neavei* von Schulthess, 1921, Entomol. Mitt. 10: 126.

Distribution: Sierra Leone; Congo; Tanzania, including Zanzibar; Mozambique; Zambia (Bequaert, 1938).

***smithii smithii* de Saussure, 1853**

Polistes smithii de Saussure, 1853, Ét. Fam. Vesp. 2: 60.

Distribution: Senegal; Congo; Tanzania, including Zanzibar; Zimbabwe; South Africa: Kwazulu-Natal (Bequaert, 1938; Richards & Richards, 1951).

***tristis* Meade-Waldo, 1911**

Polistes tristis Meade-Waldo, 1911, Ann. Nat. Hist. (8) 7: 101.

Distribution: Kenya.

***tullgreni* Schulz, 1906**

Polistes inornatus Tullgren, 1904, Arkiv Zool. 1: 456, pl. 25 figs. 15a, b, non Ritsema, 1874.

Polistes tullgreni Schulz, 1906, Spolia Hym.: 229. Replacement name for *inornatus* Tullgren, 1904, non Ritsema, 1874.

Distribution: Cameroon; Congo (Bequaert, 1938).

Madagascan species

***albocalcaratus* du Buysson, 1905**

Polistes albocalcaratus du Buysson, 1905, Bull. Soc. Entomol. France 1905: 257.

Distribution: Madagascar.

***bituberculatus* du Buysson, 1905**

Polistes bituberculatus du Buysson, 1905, Bull. Soc. Entomol. France 1905: 257.

Distribution: Madagascar.

***madecassus* de Saussure, 1853**

Polistes madecassus de Saussure, 1853, Ét. Fam. Vesp. 2: 51.

Distribution: Madagascar.

***saussurei* Dalla Torre, 1894**

Polistes incertus de Saussure, 1890, in Grandidier, Hist. Madagascar 20, Hym.: 145, non Cresson, 1865.

Polistes saussurei Dalla Torre, 1894, Cat. Hym. 9: 134. Replacement name for *incertus* de Saussure, 1890, non Cresson, 1865.

Distribution: Madagascar; Comoros (Bequaert, 1918).

***sikorae* de Saussure, 1900**

Polistes sikorae de Saussure, 1900, Abh. Senckenberg. Naturforsch. Ges. 26: 233.

Polistes sikorae var. *obscura* de Saussure, 1900, Abh. Senckenberg. Naturforsch. Ges. 26: 234, non de Saussure, 1863.

Distribution: Madagascar.

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