

## Platygastridae (Hymenoptera) from Los Monegros

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Platygastrids are small parasitoid hymenoptera living on several orders of Insecta, mainly Diptera Cecidomyiidae.

Hitherto Los Monegros region is the only Iberian place where comprehensive investigations of Platygastridae have been carried out (Buhl, in press). In this area 38 species were recognized, belonging to 12 genera. 14 taxons have been named till species level, being only known in Northern Europe (*Allotropa mecrida*, *Fidiobia synergorum*, *Iphitrachelus gracilis*, *Leptacis ozines*, *Platygaster acrisius*, *P. cebes*, *P. luteocoxalis*, *P. cf. munita*, *P. cf. splendidula* and *Synopeas ciliatus*), Central Europe (*Inostemma discessus* and *Pseudaphanomerus hyalinatus*), Eastern Mediterranean (*Inostemma mediterraneum*) and Italy (*Trichacis illusor*; 4 species have been determined till genera level (*Amblyaspis*, *Inostemma*, *Piestopleura* and *Synopeas*) and 20 species are new to science (genera *Isolia* [1 sp.], *Platygaster* [17 ssp.] and *Synopeas* [2 ssp.]), 5 of them with their nearest relatives in the Nearctic region.

As far as I can see Los Monegros is a special kind of habitat with many of the platygastrid species restricted to this unique kind of plant community (with their unique gall midge hosts). I have surely never before seen so many species new to science from a single locality in Europe!. Los Monegros region is now the "terra typica" of 20 species of Platygastrids and this is why it is an area which must be preserved.

### References:

- BUHL, P. N., in press - Platygastridae (Hymenoptera) species of a *Juniperus thurifera* L. forest of Los Monegros region (Zaragoza, Spain).  
ZAPATERI, *Revta. aragon. ent.*, 8



*Valerianella  
multidentata*  
Loscos & Pardo  
A: Fruto.  
(Dib. O. Escudero)