



The type specimens of bees (Hymenoptera, Apoidea) deposited in the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg. Contribution III. Family Halictidae, genera *Halictus* Latreille, 1804, and *Sphecodes* Latreille, 1804

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Abstract

The type specimens for names of bee taxa in the genera *Halictus* Latreille, 1804 and *Sphecodes* Latreille, 1804 of family Halictidae deposited in the Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences (St. Petersburg) are reviewed. Name-bearing types of 39 species and subspecies are illustrated and detailed information is provided (taxa include 15 described by F. Morawitz; nine by Yu. Pesenko; eight by P. Blüthgen; five by Yu. Astafurova & M. Proshchalykin; and two by E. Eversmann). Lectotypes are designated for *Halictus flavocallosus* Morawitz, 1894, and *H. tataricus* Blüthgen, 1933.

Key words: Anthophila, Apiformes, lectotypes, Palaearctic region, taxonomy

Introduction

The present paper is the third part (and last for the family Halictidae) of a series of works dealing with the primary type specimens of bee taxa deposited in the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg (ZISP), the main goal of which is to make the ZISP collection of bees more accessible and useful to scientists. A detailed history of the formation of this collection and description of its current state are given by us in the first parts of the series, in which we catalogued the genus *Lasioglossum* Curtis, 1833 (Astafurova & Proshchalykin 2018), and the subfamilies Rophitinae, Nomiinae, and Nomioidinae (Astafurova & Proshchalykin 2019).

The genus *Halictus* Latreille, 1804 (Halictinae) is distributed nearly world-wide except in Australia and Antarctica, although most of the 206 species occur in the northern hemisphere (Ascher & Pickering 2020). The majority of species are Mediterranean and Central Asian, preferring deserts and semi-deserts. All of the species of the genus for which the behaviour is known are primitively eusocial (except solitary *Halictus quadricinctus* (Fabricius); see Michener 2000, 2007), polyleges (usually with a certain preference of Asteraceae), and construct nests in the soil. For a long time, the genus *Halictus* has been subdivided into three subgenera: *Halictus* s. str., *Seladonia* Robertson, 1918 and *Vestitohalictus* Blüthgen, 1961 (Michener 1978). Pesenko (1984b, 2007) recognized two genera: *Halictus* with 12 subgenera and *Seladonia* with 6 subgenera, including *Vestitohalictus*. In accordance with the classification by Michener (2007), the genus *Halictus* has 15 subgenera including the subgenera *Seladonia* and *Vestitohalictus*.

Species of the cosmopolitan bee genus *Sphecodes* Latreille, 1804 (Halictinae) are notable cleptoparasites in the nests of a wide variety of short-tongued bees, particularly species of *Lasioglossum* Curtis and *Halictus* Latreille (Michener 1978, 2007). The genus is one of several genera of cleptoparasitic species that are commonly classified as a subtribe, Sphecodina, among the Halictini. Presently there are nearly 282 species recognized in *Sphecodes* (Ascher & Pickering 2020).

The ZISP collection of *Halictus* and *Sphecodes* is housed in 64 drawers and comprises more than 20,000 pinned, labelled and identified specimens belonging to about 260 species. The most valuable part of the general collection, along with name-bearing types of 39 species and subspecies of the genera *Halictus* and *Sphecodes*, comprise the numerous those without a name-bearing function (paratypes, paralectotypes: 327 specimens in total) for 86 species and subspecies described by F. Morawitz, Yu. Pesenko, P. Blüthgen, E. Eversmann, W. Ebmer, K. Warncke, J. Pérez, Y. Wu, Yu. Astafurova, and M. Proshchalykin. Among 39 species and subspecies (two described by Eversmann, 15 by Morawitz, eight by Blüthgen, nine by Pesenko, and five by Astafurova & Proshchalykin) 30 names are valid and nine are subjectively invalid.

As a part of a detailed type inventory of the ZISP collection, lectotypes are designated here for *Halictus flavocallosus* Morawitz, 1894, and *H. tataricus* Blüthgen, 1933, to avoid confusion concerning the status and diagnosis of type specimens.