

Darwin wasps, ichneumonid parasitoids, are one of the most species-rich branches of the tree of life, consisting of ~25,000 valid species, with an estimated 60,000–100,000 species worldwide. However, our knowledge currently lags far behind their true enormous diversity, although they play an important role in terrestrial ecosystems as regulators of host insect populations.

Enicospilus, comprising nocturnal parasitoids of Lepidoptera, is one of the largest genera of Darwin wasps, with ~700 valid and an estimate of ~1,000 species worldwide. The tropical species are taxonomically relatively well known, but not the temperate species.

The *Enicospilus* fauna of Japan and its adjacent area has been particularly poorly known, with many taxonomic problems persisting. Hence, we here provide a comprehensive study of the Japanese fauna.

Using an integrative approach, we recognise 47 species in Japan, with descriptions of eight new species, and propose many taxonomic changes together with new regional and country faunistic records. We provide an identification key to all Japanese species of *Enicospilus*, opening up the Japanese species for more applied research. However, the analysis of species richness patterns in Japan suggests our basic knowledge of Japanese *Enicospilus* is still incomplete and that more species will be found.

**INTEGRATIVE TAXONOMY AND ANALYSIS
OF SPECIES RICHNESS PATTERNS
OF NOCTURNAL DARWIN WASPS
OF THE GENUS *ENICOSPILUS* STEPHENS
(HYMENOPTERA, ICHNEUMONIDAE,
OPHIONINAE) IN JAPAN**

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Enicospilus acutus Shimizu, sp. nov.

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