



Taxonomic study of the genus *Zema* Fennah (Hemiptera: Fulgoromorpha: Tropicuchidae) from China

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Abstract

Zema montana sp. nov. (Hemiptera: Fulgoroidea: Tropicuchidae) is described and illustrated from Yunnan, southwestern China. This represents the second known species of *Zema*. The type species, *Z. gressitti* Fennah, unrecorded since its 1956 description, is redescribed and illustrated and a revised generic description provided. New distributional records for *Z. gressitti* are given for Nepal and China (Yunnan, Xizang).

Key words: *Zema*, Tropicuchidae, new species, new distribution records

Introduction

The tropiduchid planthopper genus *Zema* was established by Fennah (1956) for *Z. gressitti* Fennah from central China. Fennah (1956) believed that *Zema* is related to a group of genera including *Cixiopsis* Matsumura, *Duriopsis* Melichar, *Olontheus* Jacobi, *Ommatissus* Fieber and *Padanda* Distant. Fennah (1982) revised the higher classification of the Tropicuchidae and recognized 15 tribes in the family. *Zema* is placed in the tribe Cixiopsini, together with *Cixiopsis*, *Duriopsis*, *Padanda* and *Olontheus*. Huang & Bourgoïn (1993) transferred *Caffrommatissus* Fennah to Cixiopsini from Trypetimorphini.

While sorting and identifying Tropicuchidae from material in the Insect Collection of the Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing (IZCAS) and elsewhere, we found one new species of *Zema* collected from Mt. Meili, Yunnan in southwestern China. It is the second species of the genus. In this paper, we redescribe the genus *Zema*, describe and illustrate the new species, *Z. montana* sp. nov., and present the new distributional records of *Z. gressitti*.

Materials and Methods

The specimens studied in the course of this work are deposited in the following institutions whose names are abbreviated in the text as follows: California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, USA (CAS); Insect Collection of China Agricultural University, Beijing, China (CAU), Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China (IZCAS); Department of Biology Insect Collection, Nankai University, Tianjin, China (NU); Tianjin Museum of Natural History, Tianjin, China (TMNH), and National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, USA (USNM).

Morphological terminology follows that of Liang (2003) and Wang & Liang (2006).