



Species of the genus *Limnellia* from China (Diptera: Ephydriidae)

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Abstract

The genus *Limnellia* Malloch is recorded from China as well as the Oriental region for the first time. Two new species, *Limnellia flavitarsis* **sp. nov.** and *L. luchunensis* **sp. nov.**, are described, and two species, *L. stenhammari* (Zetterstedt) and *L. maculipennis* Malloch, are recorded from China for the first time. A key of the genus *Limnellia* from China is presented.

Key words: Diptera, Ephydriidae, *Limnellia*, new species, China

Introduction

The genus *Limnellia* Malloch, 1925, belongs to the tribe Scatellini in the subfamily Ephydrinae. Mathis and Zatwarnicki (1995) listed 18 *Limnellia* species in their world catalog. Mathis, Zatwarnicki and Marris (2004) last revised the genus and transferred the species *Scatella abbreviata* Harrison to *Limnellia* as a new combination. The genus occurs nearly worldwide except the Oriental region with 19 known species, of which 5 are from the Palaearctic region.

In this paper we firstly record the genus *Limnellia* from China as well as the Oriental region. Four species of *Limnellia* are described including two new species, *Limnellia flavitarsis* **sp. nov.** and *L. luchunensis* **sp. nov.** The new species are distinctly different from other known species in the spots of the wing. Two species, *L. stenhammari* (Zetterstedt) and *L. maculipennis* Malloch, are also recorded from China for the first time. A key of the genus *Limnellia* from China is presented. All specimens examined for this study are deposited in the Entomological Museum of the China Agricultural University (CAU), Beijing.

One head and two venational ratios used in the descriptions are defined below. 1. Gena-to-eye ratio is the genal height measured at the maximum eye height divided by the eye height. 2. Costal vein ratio: the straight line distance between the apices of R_{2+3} and R_{4+5} (costal section III)/distance between the apices of R_1 and R_{2+3} (costal section II). 3. M vein ratio is the straight line distance along vein M between crossveins dm-cu and r-m/distance apical of dm-cu.

Taxonomy

Limnellia Malloch, 1925

Limnellia Malloch, 1925: 331 (feminine). Type species: *Limnellia maculipennis* Malloch, 1925, original designation.–Andersson, 1971: 53–59 [review of European species].–Mathis, 1978: 250–293 [revision of Nearctic species].

Eustigoptera Cresson, 1930: 126 (feminine). Type species: *Notiphila quadrata* Fallén, 1813, original designation.–Cresson, 1935: 362 [synonymy].