



Polytremis jigongi: a new skipper from China (Lepidoptera: Hesperiiidae)

JIAN-QING ZHU¹, ZHI-BING CHEN² & LI-ZHEN LI¹

¹Department of Biology, Shanghai Normal University, Shanghai, 200234, P.R. China E-mail: zzzjjq@gmail.com

²Shanghai Zoological Park, Shanghai, 200335, P.R. China E-mail: chenzhibing@yahoo.cn

Abstract

A new species, *Polytremis jigongi* is described from Zhejiang, China. The new taxon resembles four congeneric species *P. nascens* (Leech), *P. micropunctata* (Huang), *P. theca* (Evans) and *P. mencia* (Moore), which are also analyzed and compared in the present study, and their geographical distribution in China is mapped. A key to the genus *Polytremis* of the world is given.

Key words: skipper, Zhejiang, taxonomy, *Polytremis jigongi*, Hesperiiinae, Baorini

Introduction

Polytremis Mabille, 1904 is one of the largest and most complex genera of the tribe Baorini, restricted to the continental part of the southeastern Palaearctic and northern Oriental regions, with many species endemic to China (Huang 2002). The external features are characterized by serial, linear, semi-hyaline spots and the absence of a cell spot in hindwing, as well as the unspined mesotibia. The male genitalia are distinguished by the swollen tegumen, bifid uncus, and elongated harpe.

Evans (1949) recognized 12 species in this genus (including *P. kiraizana* (Sonan)). Among these 12 species, *P. minuta* (Evans) was known from India and Myanmar, and *P. annama* Evans was described by Evans from Vietnam known from only one male specimen, the remaining 10 species have been recorded in China. Two new taxa, *P. flavinerva* Chou & Zhou and *P. choui* Huang were described from China (Chou 1994) later. However, neither of them belongs to the genus *Polytremis*, Fan *et al.* (2010) treated *P. flavinerva* as a synonym of *Scobura conciata* Hering, and *P. choui* was regarded as the synonym of *Ochlodes klapperichii* Evans (Huang 2002). In more recent years, six new species were described from China. Tsukiyama *et al.* (1997) described *P. gigantea* from Sichuan; Sugiyama (1999) described *P. matsuii* from Sichuan, *P. suprema* from Guangxi and *P. gotama* from Yunnan; Huang (2002) described *P. feifei* from Sichuan, and subsequently described *P. micropunctata* from Yunnan and treated *P. feifei* as a synonym of *P. gigantea* (Huang 2003). Hence, since Evans (1949), five species were actually added to the genus. To date, the genus *Polytremis* is composed of 17 species worldwide with 15 previously described species recorded in China.

Specimens of a *Polytremis* species (Figs. 1–2) were examined by the authors and recognized as an undescribed, distinct species. By examining all known *Polytremis* species from China and referring to the descriptions and illustrations of *P. minuta* and *P. annama*, the new species described herein is closely allied to *P. mencia*, *P. theca*, *P. nascens* and *P. micropunctata* (Figs. 7–14). The geographical distribution of new taxon with its allying species in China is mapped (Fig. 21). A key of all known species of *Polytremis* is provided.

Materials and methods

The following specimens of *Polytremis* were examined and compared with the new taxon: *P. nascens* (3♂♂, Zhejiang, China; 1♂, 1♀, Guizhou, China; 2♂♂, 2♀♀, Guangxi, China; 10♂♂, 7♀♀, Sichuan, China), *P. micropunctata* (1♂, Holotype, Yunnan, China), *P. mencia* (5♂♂, 4♀♀, Zhejiang, China; 1♂, 1♀, Jiangxi, China; 1♂, Anhui,