



Taxonomic study of the Japanese species of the genus *Salka* Dworakowska (Hemiptera, Cicadellidae, Typhlocybinae)

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Abstract

Eight new species of the erythroneurine genus *Salka* are described and illustrated from the Ryukyu Islands, southern Japan: *S. denticulata* sp. nov., *S. circumflexa* sp. nov., *S. okinawana* sp. nov., *S. diversa* sp. nov., *S. dimorpha* sp. nov., *S. maesatoensis* sp. nov., *S. nusukuensis* sp. nov. and *S. trimaculata* sp. nov.

Key words: Auchenorrhyncha, Erythroneurini, taxonomy, new species, dimorphism

Introduction

The erythroneurine genus *Salka* Dworakowska, 1972 was reviewed by Sohi & Mann (1994). Subsequently, ten species were added by Dworakowska (1994, 2006) and Zhang *et al.* (2009) redescribed the genus and described nine species from China. As a result, 53 species have been recorded from the Oriental region. In the course of my taxonomic study on the Japanese typhlocybinae fauna, I discovered eight new species of the genus.

The distributional range of each species is generally very narrow, and these new species are apparently endemic to the Ryukyus, southern Japan. The genus has not been recorded previously from other parts of Japan. Metcalf (1968) cited Matsumura (1934) as recording *Zygina nigricans* Matsumura (= *Salka nigricans*) from Japan but Matsumura's publication indicates that the species is from Taiwan which, in 1934, was considered part of Japan. Although the morphological characters of male genitalia and female 7th abdominal sternite are peculiar to species, the Japanese species are classified into two species groups: 1) pygofer bearing ventral process; aedeagus having apical process arising from ventral margin, lacking atrial process (seven species), and 2) pygofer not bearing ventral process; aedeagus lacking apical process, having atrial process (one species). If the present grouping were applied to all known *Salka* species, most of them would be classified into the first species group. It should be possible to classify all *Salka* species into species groups based on characters of the male genitalia, especially the configuration of the aedeagus, but this is beyond the scope of the present paper.

The depositories of the type material examined in this study are abbreviated in the text as follows: [ELKU] Entomological Laboratory, Faculty of Agriculture, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan; no abbreviation is indicated for the material preserved in the Department of Biology, Faculty of Education, Saitama University, Saitama, Japan.

Genus *Salka* Dworakowska, 1972

Type species: *Zygina nigricans* Matsumura, 1932.

Salka Dworakowska, 1972: 778; Chiang & Knight, 1990: 229; Sohi & Mann, 1994: 31; Zhang, Yang & Huang, 2009: 23.

Body yellow to brownish black. Fore wing semitransparent with brochosome field yellow to brownish black; hind wing semitransparent, with veins darkened.