



# Article

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## A new species of *Dendroleon* Brauer, 1866 (Neuroptera, Myrmeleontidae) from China

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### Abstract

A new species of the genus *Dendroleon* (*Dendroleon falcatus* Zhan & Wang **sp. nov.**) is described from China. This new species can be distinguished from other *Dendroleon* species by the following characters: the significantly larger size, the long abdomen in males, and the particular wing shape and markings. *Dendroleon javanus* Banks, 1914 was previously reported in China based on a misidentification; the Chinese specimens are actually *Bullanga florida* (Navás, 1913). An identification key and distribution map are provided for *Dendroleon* species recorded from China.

**Key words:** Tibet, Dendroleontini, antlion

### Introduction

The antlion genus *Dendroleon* Brauer, 1866 is one of the most widely distributed genera in the family Myrmeleontidae (Neuroptera). The adults of *Dendroleon* are similar to the genera *Gatzara* Navás, 1915 and *Nepsalus* Navás, 1914 in appearance; however, the latter mentioned genera have elongate anterior gonapophysis which is as long as or longer than posterior gonapophysis. Esben-Petersen (1923) revised the genus *Dendroleon* and recognized eight species worldwide at that time. There are now nineteen extant species listed in the genus (Stange, 2004). Wan *et al.* (2004) and Wang & Wang (2008) reviewed *Dendroleon* species from China and nine species were recognized. *Dendroleon melanocoris* Yang, 1997; *D. argulineurus* Yang, 1987; *D. decorillus* Yang, 1997; *D. decorosus* Yang, 1987 were mentioned by Stange (2004) from China. Based on the result of the latest revisions, *D. melanocoris* Yang, 1997 was synonymized by Wan *et al.* (2006) with *Layahima elegans* (Banks, 1937), later listed three species were combined by Wang *et al.* (2012) in *Gatzara* Navás, 1915.

There were still some unresolved problems with Chinese *Dendroleon* species. One of these species, *Dendroleon javanus* Banks, 1915, was reported in China previously (Yang, 1997, 1999). Wang & Wang (2008) pointed out the specimens of putative *D. javanus* from China didn't agree well with characters typical of *Dendroleon*. Recently we re-examined the same specimens identified as *D. javanus* from China. Compared with the photos of the holotype of *D. javanus*, there are some significant differences between them. *Dendroleon javanus* has a short stripe at the rhegma area in the forewing and the distal vein of 2A is simple. Also, there is no black spot at the rhegma area in the hindwing. The specimens identified as *D. javanus* previously from China have a very long line stripe at the rhegma area in forewings, 2A turns to 1A gently and the distal of 2A furcates many branches. A black spot can be seen at the rhegma area in the hindwing. So we conclude that the identification of *D. javanus* distributed in China is therefore erroneous. Further study shows that the correct name of these specimens is *Bullanga florida* (Navás, 1913). A very similar species to *D. javanus*, namely *D. esbenpeterseni* Miller & Stange, 1999 described from Taiwan, was distinguished only based on their distribution (Miller *et al.* 1999). We compared the paratype of *D. esbenpeterseni* with the above species and they can be easily distinguished by the following