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## Camellia fruit borer, *Neoblastobasis camelliae*, a new species of Blastobasinae in China (Lepidoptera, Blastobasidae)

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### Abstract

A new *Neoblastobasis* Kuznetsov & Sinev, 1985, *Neoblastobasis camelliae* Chen & Wu, **sp. nov.**, is described from Jiangxi, China, and reported feeding on the fruits of *Camellia oleifera* Abel (Theaceae). Illustrations of the adult antennal base, tergal spines on the posterior part of tergites, male genital structures, and notes on its biology are provided. A list of the Blastobasidae known from China is also included. Two species, *Blastobasis murcya* Adamski & Brown, 2002 and *B. ianella* Adamski, 2003 are transferred from *Blastobasis* to *Neoblastobasis*.

**Key words:** Lepidoptera, Blastobasidae, *Neoblastobasis*, new species, *Camellia*

### Introduction

Although widely distributed throughout the world, the family Blastobasidae has been poorly studied. The family was first proposed by Meyrick (1894). Adamski & Brown (1989) and Hodges (1999) confirmed the monophyly of Blastobasidae, using cladistic methodology. However, its relationship to other taxa within the Gelechioidea is still problematic (Kaila 2004; Bucheli & Wenzel 2005).

Since genital structures are generally used as the diagnostic character of Lepidoptera (Clarke 1941, 1963), Adamski has contributed many important works which described new blastobasid taxa from North America (Adamski 2003b; Adamski & Brown 1989; Adamski & Hodges 1996; Adamski & Hoddle 2009), Costa Rica (Adamski 2002b, 2013), Pacific Islands (Adamski & Landry 1997; Adamski & Brown 2002), Africa (Adamski *et al.* 2010), Thailand (Adamski 2002a, 2003a; Adamski & Malikul 2003), and China (Adamski & Li 2010). At the same time, works from other taxonomists reported some new taxa from Russia (Kuznetsov 1984; Kuznetsov & Sinev 1985; Sinev 1986, 1987), Middle Asia (Sinev 1989, 1994, 2007), Japan (Ohshima 2003), Korea (Park 1984, 1989), and China (Zhen & Li 2009). So far, the Blastobasidae contains 29 genera and about 500 species worldwide (Adamski & Brown 1989; Adamski 2002a, 2002b, 2013; Nieuwerkerken *et al.* 2011).

The blastobasid fauna of mainland China is probably the least known fauna (Adamski & Li 2010). So far only nine species have been reported from mainland China (Wu 2005; Zhen & Li 2009; Adamski & Li 2010; Li *et al.* 2012) and five from Taiwan (Meyrick 1916, 1931, 1936; Heppner 1992). In this paper, we describe a new species of Blastobasinae, *Neoblastobasis camelliae* Chen & Wu, **sp. nov.** from Jiangxi Province and report it feeding in the seeds of *Camellia oleifera* Abel (Theaceae), an important economic plant species of south China.

### Material and methods

Adults were reared from larvae found boring in *Camellia* fruits in the *Camellia* forest of Shuibei Town, Jiangxi, China. Field-collected fruits were kept indoors until the moths emerged.