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Description, host range and distribution of a new *Macrodiplosis* species (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae) that induces leaf-margin fold galls on deciduous *Quercus* (Fagaceae) with comparative notes on Palaearctic congeners

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Abstract

A gall midge that induces upwardly folded leaf-margin galls on *Quercus serrata*, *Q. mongolica* and *Q. dentata* (Fagaceae) in Japan and South Korea is described as *Macrodiplosis selenis* sp. n. (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae). *M. selenis* is distinguished from Palaearctic congeners by a combination of morphological characters. Genetic differences supported the result of morphological comparison and indicated that *M. selenis* is closely related to the European *M. roboris*, whose gall is similar to that of *M. selenis*.

Key words: DNA Barcode, eastern Palaearctic Region, identification

Introduction

Quercus (Linnaeus 1753) is a large genus in the family Fagaceae, consisting of at least 600 species in the Holarctic and Oriental Regions (Mabberley 1997). Various insects induce galls on *Quercus*, and cynipids (Hymenoptera) are the most abundant (e.g., Felt 1965; Yukawa & Masuda 1996; Abe *et al.* 2007). Species of gall midges (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae) that induce galls on *Quercus* are fewer in number than cynipids, 45 and 43 species having been recorded from the Palaearctic and the Nearctic Region, respectively (Gagné & Jaschhof 2014). Among gall midges, the genus *Macrodiplosis* Kieffer, 1895 is one of the main gall inducers on *Quercus*. Four Palaearctic and nine Nearctic species of *Macrodiplosis* have been previously described.

Monzen (1932) recorded an upwardly folded leaf-margin gall on *Quercus serrata* Murray from Mt. Hayachine and Morioka City, Iwate Prefecture, Japan. He thought that the gall was likely induced by *Macrodiplosis volvens* Kieffer, 1895, (now synonymized with *M. roboris* Hardy, 1854), but he did not definitively identify the gall inducer. Later, Shinji (1944) attributed the upwardly folded leaf-margin gall on *Q. serrata* to *Silvestrina quercifoliae* Shinji. However, since species of *Silvestrina* are known to be predators on mites or other minute arthropods (e.g., Gagné & Jaschhof 2014) his assumption was incorrect.

In addition, four other cecidomyiids are known to induce galls on *Quercus* in Japan (Yukawa & Masuda 1996): *Contarinia* sp. produces leaf-fold galls on *Q. acuta* Thunberg and *Q. glauca* Thunberg (Yukawa & Tsuda 1986); *Ametrodiplosis acutissima* (Monzen), makes twig galls on *Q. acutissima* Carruthers, *Q. dentata* Thunberg and *Q. variabilis* Blume (Yukawa & Masuda 1996); an unidentified species produces flattened circular leaf galls on *Q. dentata* and *Q. mongolica* Fischer (Yukawa 1982); a second unidentified species (*Macrodiplosis* sp. 2 in this paper) forms downwardly folded leaf-margin galls on *Q. mongolica* (Yukawa & Sunose 1979).

In 2011, upwardly folded leaf-margin galls were rediscovered on *Q. serrata* (Fig. 1) and *Q. dentata* (Fig. 2) in Fukuoka Prefecture, Japan, and subsequently on *Q. mongolica* (Fig. 3) in Hokkaido, Nagano and Fukuoka Prefectures. In 2012 and 2013, the same sort of gall was also found on *Q. serrata* in Ibaraki, Hyogo, Kagawa and

Discussion

Identification of the species. The percent divergence in COI sequences between *M. selenis* and other Palaearctic congeners were from 6.5 to 8.7%, which are distinctly higher than the 2% divergence proposed by Hebert *et al.* (2003) as an acceptable distance to consider two closely related entities as distinct species. Thus, the genetic analyses supported the morphological identification of *M. selenis*, indicating its occurrence in Japan and South Korea, and determining its host range (Fig. 34).

The analysis also indicates the existence of another species, *Macrodiplosis* sp. 2, which induces folded leaf-margin galls (downward type) on *Q. dentata* and *Q. mongolica* in Hokkaido and Miyazaki Prefecture, Japan. During the course of this study, we reared only a single male of *Macrodiplosis* sp. 2, terminalia of which are rather similar to those of *M. roboris* and *M. selenis* but distinctly different from those of *M. flexa* in the Russian Far East (cf. Fig. 18 in Kovalev 1972). *Macrodiplosis* sp. 2 will be described as a new species when more adults are obtained.

Various phylogenetic and evolutionary studies have demonstrated that gall shape and structure are ‘extended phenotypes’ of gall-inducing insects (e.g., Fukatsu *et al.* 1994; Stern 1995; Stone & Cook 1998; Nyman *et al.* 2000). The current genetic analysis also demonstrated that *M. selenis* and *M. roboris*, which share a similar gall shape (Figs 1, 5), are more closely related to each other than to other congeners with different gall shapes (Figs 34–35). Considerable genetic differences indicate that Palaearctic species have diverged widely from Nearctic species, with accompanying diversification of gall shape and structure.

These previously unreported molecular sequences will be helpful in identifying *Macrodiplosis* species, particularly when only larval specimens are available.

Host range and geographical distribution. The current study supports the previously known host range of *Macrodiplosis*, which is associated only with the genus *Quercus* in the Holarctic Region. This suggests possible species diversification of *Macrodiplosis* on a single host plant genus, as has been noted for other cecidomyiid genera (e.g., Skuhravá 1986; Roskam 1992; Yukawa *et al.* 2005; Gagné & Jaschhof 2014; Tokuda 2012; Gagné & Moser 2013). Information on geographical distribution is still limited, but collecting records from Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku, and Kyushu, Japan and Gyeongsangbukdo, South Korea indicate that *M. selenis* is widely distributed in Japan and Korea, suggesting possible occurrence in China and the Russian Far East. However, its distribution may not extend to the Oriental Region, as no galls of *Macrodiplosis* species have yet been found on evergreen *Quercus* species in southern Japan and southeastern Asia.

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