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First record of the genus *Hephathus* Ribaut (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae: Macropsinae) from China

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Abstract

The genus *Hephathus* with its species *Hephathus freyi* (Fieber, 1868) is recorded for the first time from China. A new species *Hephathus dilatatus* is described and illustrated. An updated species checklist with distribution of the genus *Hephathus* is also provided.

Key words: Homoptera, Auchenorrhyncha, morphology, taxonomy, new record

Introduction

The leafhopper genus *Hephathus* Ribaut (Auchenorrhyncha: Cicadellidae: Macropsinae) was established by Ribaut (1952) with *Bythoscopus nanus* Herrich-Schäffer, 1835 as its type species. Several authors (Dlabola 1957, 1961; Mitjaev 1967; Linnavuori 1978; Hamilton 1980; Tishechkin 1999, 2002) have made contributions to this genus. So far, 8 species of the genus *Hephathus* are recorded worldwide, but none has been reported from China. Members of this genus can be distinguished by the large lora and the unarmed, or not obviously armed, male pygofer.

Material and methods

The specimens were collected using a sweep net and examined under Motic K-400L and Nikon SMZ1500 microscopes. In morphological terminology and classification systems, we followed Hamilton (1980) and Zhang (1990). Most specimens used in this study are deposited in the Entomological Museum, Northwest A&F University, Yangling, China (NWAUFU). Type specimens of the new species are deposited in the Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China (IZAS).

Hephathus Ribaut

Hephathus Ribaut, 1952: 437

Asmaropsis Linnavuori, 1978: 17

Type species: *Bythoscopus nanus* Herrich-Schäffer, 1835

Diagnosis. Body form typical of Macropsini. Face as in *Macropsis*, but both males and females with larger lora. Pronotum slightly wider than head, pronotal striations weakly oblique. Forewing with 3 antepical cells. Hind tibial macrosetae 5–7. Male pygofer unarmed, or with short stout spine arising on ventral margin, directed dorsad. Dorsal connectives slender and unarmed, or unsclerotized.

Hephathus resembles *Macropsis* in both body form and male genitalia, and they may be closely related. The former differs from the latter in having larger lora and the posterior notch of the male and female pregenital tergite rounded rather than quadrate (Hamilton 1980).