

Review of the subgenus *Scatella* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830 from China (Diptera: Ephydriidae)

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Abstract

The species of the subgenus *Scatella* Robineau-Desvoidy from China are reviewed. One species, *Scatella tenuicosta* Collin, is recorded from China for the first time, and one species, *Scatella henanensis* sp. nov., is described. A key to the species from China is given. The distribution of the subgenus in China is discussed.

Key words: Diptera, Ephydriidae, *Scatella*, New species, China

Introduction

The genus *Scatella* Robineau-Desvoidy is one of the largest genera in the subfamily Ephydriinae. It includes six subgenera: *Apulvillus* Malloch, *Neoscatella* Malloch, *Parascatella* Cresson, *Scatella* Robineau-Desvoidy, *Synhoplos* Lamb, and *Teichomyza* Macquart. The subgenus *Scatella* occurs worldwide with 135 known species (Mathis & Zatwarnicki, 1995). There are 17 species known from the Palaearctic region and three from the Oriental. Only three species have been recorded from China: *Scatella lutosa* (Haliday), *Scatella stagnalis* (Fallén) and *Scatella bullacosta* Cresson. The major references dealing with the subgenus *Scatella* are as follows: Cresson (1934), Olafsson (1991), and Mathis & Zatwarnicki (1995).

This genus has a broad habitat, some species occur in hot springs, mangrove swamps, sandy beaches, muddy shore, sandy shore and steam rocks (Foote, 1995). They feed on blue-green algae, true algae or detritus. Simpson (1976) found some species of the genus in the rocky intertidal habitat. Foote (1995) reported that *Scatella stagnalis* (Fallén) is common greenhouse-infesting, which is vector of a root disease caused by a *Pythium* fungus.