

New species of *Platypalpus* from Hebei province, China (Diptera: Empididae)

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Abstract

The genus *Platypalpus* Macquart is reported from Hebei province for the first time. The following three species are described as new to science: *P. hebeiensis* n. sp., *P. acutatus* n. sp. and *P. xiaowutaiensis* n. sp. A key to the species of the genus from Hebei is presented.

Key words. Diptera, Empididae, Tachydromiinae, *Platypalpus*, Hebei, new species

Introduction

The genus *Platypalpus* Macquart belongs to the subfamily Tachydromiinae. It is easily identified by the following features: eyes narrowly separated on face, mid leg raptorial, and anal cell present (Chvála, 1975; Grootaert & Chvála, 1992). The genus is distributed worldwide with very rich species in the Palaearctic realm, particularly in Europe where some 250 species were recorded (Chvála & Kovalev, 1989; Grootaert & Chvála, 1992). Previously, there were 31 known species from the Oriental realm (Smith, 1975). 25 species have been added to the fauna of China by Yang, D. & Yang, C. (1989, 1990, 1992, 1997), Yang, C. & Yang, D. (1992), Saigusa & Yang (2002), Yang, An & Gao (2002). So far 33 species are known to occur in China. Hebei province is semi-humid with a subtemperate climate and belongs to the North China region of the Palaearctic realm. The genus *Platypalpus* is recorded from Hebei for the first time with 3 new species. A key to the species of the genus from Hebei is presented.

The specimens are deposited in the Entomological Museum of China Agricultural University (CAU), Beijing. Here I follow Steyskal & Knutson (1981) and Yang & Yang (2004) in treating the dance flies as a single family, Empididae. The following abbreviations are used: acr—acrostichal, av—anteroventral, dc—dorsocentral, h—humeral,