

Nymphs of the genus *Isoperla* Banks (Plecoptera, Perlodidae) from the Eastern Palaearctic Region

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Abstract

The nymphs of the genus *Isoperla* Banks inhabiting the Eastern Palaearctic Region are reviewed. Previously unknown nymphs of *Isoperla asiatica*, *I. eximia*, *I. flavescens*, *I. lunigera*, *I. maculata*, *I. mongolica*, *I. pseudornata* are described and illustrated. A key is provided. Complementary distributional data are presented.

Key words: Plecoptera, Perlodidae, *Isoperla*, nymphs, Eastern Palaearctic Region

Introduction

Isoperla Banks, a widespread Holarctic genus, is notable for its high species diversity in the Nearctic, Palaearctic and Oriental Regions. The world fauna includes 125 species (Szczytko & Stewart 1979, Szczytko & Stewart 1984, Bottorff et al. 1990), 58 of them inhabiting the Nearctic (Stewart & Stark 2002). We can only speculate about *Isoperla* species diversity in the Oriental Region, because its stonefly fauna has been incompletely investigated. According to Illies (1966) and Zwick (1973) six species are known from China, 42 from West Palaearctic, and 14 species from Japan. Twelve species are known from the Eastern Palaearctic Region: *I. altaica* Sámal, *I. asiatica* Raušer, *I. eximia* Zapekina-Dulkeit, *I. flavescens* Zhiltzova & Potikha, *I. kozlovi* Zhiltzova, *I. lunigera* Klapálek, *I. maculata* Zhiltzova, *I. mongolica* Zhiltzova, *I. obscura* (Zetterstedt), *I. ornata* Zhiltzova, *I. pseudornata* Zhiltzova, and *I. potanini* (Klapalek) comb. nov. (Zwick & Purevdorj 2005). *Isoperla obscura* has the most extensive trans-Palaearctic distributional pattern covering Europe, Siberia, and Russian Far East including the Anadyr River Basin. Six species have wide distributions from the Magadan Region, North East of Russia, to the coasts of the Sea of Okhotsk and the Sea of Japan, Sakhalin Island and the Southern Kuril