



Two new species of the genus *Bittacus* (Mecoptera: Bittacidae) from China

BAOZHEN HUA¹, JIANGLI TAN¹ & PENGYING HUANG²

¹Key Laboratory of Plant Protection Resources and Pest Management, Ministry of Education; Entomological Museum, Northwest A&F University, Yangling, Shaanxi 712100, China; E-mail: huabzh@nwsuaf.edu.cn, tanjiangli@sina.com

²Xiamen Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureau, Xiamen, Fujian 361012, China; E-mail: hyp7766@163.com
Corresponding author. Tel. +86-29-87091342, E-mail: huabzh@nwsuaf.edu.cn

Abstract

Two species of hangingflies in the genus *Bittacus* Latreille, *Bittacus bifurcatus* Hua et Tan and *Bittacus echinatus* Hua et Huang, are described as new to science from the Qinling Mountains, central China. Wing venation and genitalia of the new species are illustrated. The terrestrial globe-shaped egg of *B. echinatus* is reported for the first time and observed under scanning electron microscopy.

Key words: Insecta, Mecoptera, Bittacidae, *Bittacus*, taxonomy, Qinling Mountain

Introduction

Bittacus Latreille, 1805, the largest and the most widespread of the 17 extant genera of the Bittacidae, is the sole genus of hangingflies distributed in China. Of the 129 species known worldwide, nineteen are distributed in mainland China (Cheng, 1957; Tjeder, 1956; Penny and Byers, 1979; Byers, 1970; Hua and Chou, 1997; Huang and Hua, 2005; Cai *et al.* 2006; Hua and Tan, 2007). In recent years, we have made extensive and intensive expeditions in the Qinling Mountains, central China, and a large number of hangingfly specimens have been collected. Among them, two species of *Bittacus* were found to be new to science. The type specimens are deposited in the Entomological Museum, Northwest A&F University, Yangling, Shaanxi 712100, China NWAU.

Bittacus bifurcatus Hua et Tan, sp. n.

(Figs 1–2)

Holotype: male, CHINA: SHAANXI: Xiabaiyun Temple (34°4 N, 107°44 E), alt. 1400 m, Mt. Taibaishan, 11.vii.2006, coll. B.Z. Hua.

Diagnosis

The new species is quite small in size, readily separable from its congeners by the peculiar two-branched aedeagal lobe, the epandrial appendages with distal half abruptly narrowed into an up-curved horn from lateral view, and the extremely long and slender gonostyles.