



***Minucella*, a new leafhopper genus from China (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae: Stegelytrinae)**

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Abstract

Minucella **gen. n.** and two species (*M. divaricata* **sp. n.** and *M. leucomaculata* (Li & Zhang) **comb. n.**) from southern China are described in the leafhopper subfamily Stegelytrinae. Difficulties in the delimitation of one of the included species, *M. leucomaculata* and its junior synonym *Placidus maculatus* Li & Zhang, **syn. nov.**, are discussed, and the observed variation is considered to be intraspecific. ‘Mud-puddling’ is recorded for the new genus and discussed for the subfamily.

Key words: Homoptera, Auchenorrhyncha, morphology, intraspecific variation, mud-puddling

Introduction

Stegelytrinae Baker is a small leafhopper subfamily restricted to the Palaearctic and Oriental regions. Compared to many other subfamilies of Cicadellidae the included genera in this subfamily are remarkably diverse, and the Oriental genera were either only recently placed in the subfamily (being unassigned by Oman *et al* 1990), or described or revised more recently (see generic remarks below).

In the present paper a new genus, *Minucella* **gen. n.**, and two included species (*M. divaricata* **sp. n.** and *M. leucomaculata* (Li & Zhang) **comb. n.**) of Stegelytrinae are described from southern China. The considerable intraspecific variation encountered in the latter species is documented and an unusual behavior (‘mud-puddling’) is recorded for the new genus and discussed for the subfamily.

Depositories: Material examined is deposited in various institutions abbreviated in the text as follows:

BMNH	The Natural History Museum, London, UK
CAU	China Agriculture University, Beijing, China
IRSNB	Institute royal des Science naturelles de Belgique, Brussels, Belgium
IZAS	The Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing, China
NKU	Nankai Univerity, Tianjin, China
NWAFU	The Entomological Museum, Northwest A & F University, Yangling, Shaanxi, China
TJNHM	Tianjin Natural History Museum, Tianjin, China
ZSU	Zhongshan University, Zhongshan, China