



A new species of the genus *Homidia* Börner, 1906 (Collembola: Entomobryidae) from East China

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Abstract

A new species, *Homidia linhaiensis*, from East China is described. It is separated from the other members of the genus *Homidia* by the following combination of characters, body colour pattern, presence of 5+5 lateral macrochaetae on Abd. III, a pair of extra dorsal macrochaetae (A2) on anterior part of Abd. IV and 9 smooth setae on lateral flap of ventral tube. A table of characters of closely related *Homidia* species is provided.

Key words: *Homidia linhaiensis* sp. nov., chaetotaxy, China, *Homidia*

Introduction

The genus *Homidia* was established by Börner (1906) as a subgenus of *Entomobrya* Rodnani, 1861 with type species *Homidia cingula* Börner, 1906. Denis (1929a) raised the subgenus to the generic level. It is characterized by the presence of spines on inner edges of dentes in adults, 8+8 eyes, bilobed Ant. IV apical bulb, bidentate mucro with subapical tooth larger than apical one, mucronal basal spine short with tip only reaching subapical tooth and the absence of body scales. *Homidia* species usually live in soil and litter, consume micro-organisms, such as bacteria, fungi and pollen. So far, 45 species in the genus have been described around the world, 23 of them recorded from China. A new Chinese species, *Homidia linhaiensis*, is described in the present paper.

Abbreviations. Th.—thoracic segment; Abd.—abdominal segment; Ant.—antennal segment.

Homidia linhaiensis sp. nov.

Figs 1–22, Tab. 1

Type material. Holotype, female on slide, China: Zhejiang Province: Linhai City, 18. iv. 2008, collection number S3048, collected by Zhi-Xiang Pan & Xin Qi. Paratypes: 15 females and 3 males on slide and 20 in alcohol, same data as holotype. Deposited in the College of Life Science, Taizhou University, China.

Description. Size. Maximum body length: 3.85 mm.

Colour pattern. Ground colour yellowish in alcohol (Figs. 1–3). Eye patches dark blue. Ant. III and IV with dark blue pigment. One pair of dark blue spots present on middle of dorsal Th. III. Scattered light blue pigment present on frontal and interocular areas of head, lateral sides of Th. II–III, and coxae of legs.

Head. Eyes 8+8, G and H smaller than others, and sometimes invisible (Fig. 4). Antenna 1.9–3.2 times as long as cephalic diagonal; antennal segment ratio I : II : III : IV = 1 : 1.3–1.6 : 1.4–1.5 : 1.8–2.5; Ant. III organ with 2 rod-like sensory setae (Fig. 5); Ant. IV apical bulb bilobed (Fig. 6). Dorsal cephalic chaetotaxy (after Szeptycki, 1973) with 6 antennal (A), 3 ocellar (O) and 6 sutural (S) macrochaetae (Fig. 4). Labral papillae