



## Two new species of *Rhopalopsole vietnamica* group (Plecoptera: Leuctridae: *Rhopalopsole*) from China

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### Abstract

The following two species from Hainan and Ningxia, China are described as new to science: *Rhopalopsole hainana* sp. n. and *R. ningxiana* sp. n., respectively. Their relationship to similar species is discussed.

**Key words:** Plecoptera, Leuctridae, *Rhopalopsole*, new species, China

### Introduction

*Rhopalopsole* males are characterized by the presence of a short vesicle on sternum 9, the segment forming a short subgenital plate that undergirds sternum 10. Tergum 10 is composed of three plates: a central plate usually with lateral bars and a pair of posterior transverse bars. The cercus is long, cylindrical and may have an apical spine (Zwick 1977, Sivec et al. 2008). Distinguishing characteristics in females include sternum 7 forming a large elongate subgenital plate and sternum 8 with an incised transverse plate which usually is entire or separated medially by a membrane in some species (Sivec et al. 2008). Harrison & Stark (2008) described a new species from Vietnam and presented a checklist of 29 valid species in China and southeast Asia. Stark and Sivec (2008) recently recognized a species from Borneo, *R. mataikan* Stark & Sivec, 2008. Recent work by Sivec et al. (2008) included descriptions of 31 new species from southeast Asia and provided a framework for further research of the genus. Earlier contributions and revisional works on *Rhopalopsole* were mainly made by Klapálek (1912), Okamoto (1922), Wu (1949), Illies (1966), Kawai (1967, 1968, 1969), Jewett (1958, 1975), Harper (1977), and Zwick (1977).

China remains the most species-rich area harboring up to 34 species recorded by Klapálek (1912), Sivec et al. (1997), Wu (1949), Yang and Yang (1991, 1993, 1994, 1995a & b), Yang and Yang (1991), Yang et al. (2004), Yang et al. (2009), Yang and Li (2006) and Sivec et al. (2008). In the present paper, two species of *Rhopalopsole* from Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region and Hainan Province of China are described as new to science. The types are deposited in the Entomological Museum of China Agricultural University, Beijing. Morphological terminology follows that of Zwick (1977) and Sivec et al. (2008).

### Taxonomy

#### *Rhopalopsole hainana* Li & Yang, sp. nov.

(Figs. 1–6)

**Diagnosis.** This species is characterized by the lateral projections of tergum 10 being bifurcate with the upper