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## Review of the leafhopper genus *Oniella* Matsumura (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae), with description of a new species from China

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### Abstract

The genus *Oniella* Matsumura 1912 is reviewed and seven species from China are recognized, including a new species, *O. shaanxiana* **sp. nov.**, a new synonym, *O. flavomarginata*, **syn. nov.** and a new combination, *O. albula* (Cai & Shen, 1998) **n. comb.** transferred from *Sophonia*. *O. excelsa* (Melichar) is removed from this genus. The seven species are described and illustrated in detail, and a key to all species of the genus is provided.

**Key word:** Homoptera, Auchenorrhyncha, Nirvanini, taxonomy, morphology, China

### Introduction

The genus *Oniella* was established by Matsumura (1912) to include the type species, *O. leucocephala* Matsumura, and an additional Japanese species, *O. niisimae* Matsumura, based on external morphology. In addition, Matsumura (1912) transferred two Chinese species described under the genus *Tettigonia* by Melichar (1902) to *Oniella*. Additional Chinese species were added by Li and Wang (1992), Kuoh (1992), Cai and Kuoh (1996) and Li & Chen (1997, 1999). Subsequently, in a more detailed review of the genus, Li & Chen (1999) considered *O. leucocephala* Matsumura and *O. nigrovittata* Kuoh to be junior synonyms of *O. honesta* (Melichar). Up to now, there were seven known species in this genus from China.

In this study, one new species, *O. shaanxiana* **sp. nov.** is described and illustrated from China and a new combination, *O. albula* (Cai & Shen) **n. comb.**, is proposed. Based on examination of type material, *O. excelsa* (Melichar) is removed from this genus and one new synonymy is recognized: *O. honesta* (Melichar) equals *O. flavomarginata* Li & Chen, **syn. nov.** A key for the identification of adult males in this genus is provided.

#### Material and methods

All specimens examined are deposited in the Entomological Museum, Northwest A&F University, Yangling, Shaanxi, China (NWAUFU). Morphological terminology used follows Zhang (1990) and Li & Chen (1999). Habitus and genitalia photos were taken using a scientific digital micrography system equipped with an Auto-montage imaging system and a Q-IMAGING Retiga 2000R digital camera (CCD) and compressed into final images. The abdomen and genitalia were removed from specimens and cleared in a 10% NaOH solution heated for 1–2 minutes. Cleared material was then rinsed in water and stored in glycerin. A Nikon SMZ1500 compound microscope and an Olympus BH-2 stereoscopic microscope were used for observing specimens and drawing figures.

### Taxonomy

#### Tribe Nirvanini