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Spazigasteroides a new genus from China with a black face and scutellum in the Syrphini (Diptera: Syrphidae)

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Abstract

In the present paper, the genus *Spazigasteroides* gen. nov. (Diptera, Syrphidae), with *Spazigasteroides caeruleus* sp. nov. as type species, is described from China. The new genus bears the following characters: Head strongly concave posteriorly and closely appressed to thorax so that the bare postpronota are entirely hidden. Face black in ground colour. Antennae short, with basoflagellomeres slightly longer than wide. Scutellum black. Postmetacoxal bridge incomplete. Legs simple, slender. Wing vein R_{4+5} straight, vein r-m at basal third of cell dm. Abdomen petiolate, longer than head and thorax together. Male aedeagus two segmented. Based on the subdivision of Syrphinae by Vockeroth (1992), the new genus belongs to the tribe Syrphini, it is separated from the genera of the tribe Syrphini by both the face and scutellum black. In appearance the new genus is also similar to the genus *Spazigaster* Rondani, the tribe Bacchini, but it is differentiated from the genera of the tribe Bacchini by the two segmented aedeagus.

Key words: Syrphinae, new species, taxonomy, Shaanxi Province, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region

Introduction

While conducting a survey for Syrphidae in Shaanxi Province and Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, an unusual syrphine was encountered that did not belong to any known genus or species. The present paper provides descriptions and figures of the new taxa, together with revisionary notes on the genera of Syrphinae with a black face and scutellum.

Based on adult and larval characters, Thompson (1969) divides the family Syrphidae into three subfamilies: Syrphinae, Eristalinae and Microdontinae. This division has been accepted by most workers. Syrphinae are distinctly differentiated from the other two subfamilies by following main combined characters: head posteriorly strongly concave and closely appressed to the thorax so that postpronota are partly or entirely hidden, postpronotum usually bare, larvae of Syrphinae are usually predaceous.

The subfamily Syrphinae has been grouped into many different tribes or subfamilies (Williston 1886; Shannon 1921, 1922, 1923; Hull 1949; Shiraki, 1949; Goffe 1952; Hartley 1960; Wirth *et al.* 1965; Dusek & Laska 1967; Knutson *et al.* 1975; Smith *et al.* 1980; Stubbs *et al.* 1983; Peck 1988; Vockeroth 1969, 1992; Thompson & Rotheray 1998). Wirth *et al.* (1965) transfer Pipizini from Eristalinae to Syrphinae based on the larval feeding habits, which division is accepted by some workers and not by others. Williston (1886) erects the tribe Bacchini and the tribe Melanostomini, the former consists of the genera with face considerably narrowed below, and abdomen frequently contracted beyond the base, more or less slender; the latter the genera with black face and scutellum. This division was followed subsequently by most workers, although the two tribes respectively comprised of different genera in the classifications of different authors (Brunetti 1923; Shannon 1921, 1922, 1923; Hull 1949; Goffe 1952; Vockeroth 1969; Knutson *et al.* 1975; Thompson *et al.* 1976; Peck 1988; Cheng *et al.* 1998; Huo *et al.* 2007). Stubbs *et al.* (1983) divide Syrphinae into three tribes: Syrphini (included Chrysotoxini), Bacchini (included Melanostomatini) and Paragini. The differentiation of the tribe Bacchini from the tribe Syrphini is that

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