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***Alafrasca sticta*, a new genus and species of the tribe Empoascini (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae: Typhlocybinae) with a checklist of the tribe from China**

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Abstract

A new monotypic genus of empoascine leafhopper, *Alafrasca* **gen. nov.** is described and illustrated for *A. sticta* **sp. nov.** from Sichuan, China as its type species. Habitus photos and illustrations of male genitalia of the new species are given. A checklist of the tribe in China is also provided.

Key words: Auchenorrhyncha, leafhopper, taxonomy, distribution

Introduction

Empoascini is a large group among the 6 tribes within the subfamily Typhlocybinae of Cicadellidae. Over the past 100 years, the tribal classification has undergone a great deal of addition and revision and it is currently characterized as follows: forewing without appendix, hindwing with submarginal vein present at wing apex and veins RP and MP' confluent distally (Dietrich, 2005). To date, the tribe contains more than 1,000 described species in nearly 70 genera distributed worldwide.

The Chinese Empoascini were studied by Matsumura (1931), Wu (1935), Dworakowska (1971, 1972, 1973, 1976, 1982, 1994, 1995, 1997), Kuoh (1966), Chou & Ma (1981), Cai & Shen (1981), Chou & Zhang (1987), Zhang & Chou (1988), Zhang (1990), Zhang & Xiao (2000), Zhang & Qin (2004, 2005), Zhang *et al* (2008, 2010), Qin & Zhang (2003, 2004, 2007a, 2007b, 2008a, 2008b, 2011), Qin *et al* (2010, 2011a, 2011b, 2013), Liu *et al* (2011a, 2011b, 2011c, 2011d), Lu *et al.* (2013), Yu & Yang (2012, 2013a, 2013b). More than 180 species in 31 genera are known from China today. However, the empoascine fauna of China remains inadequately surveyed.

In this paper, a new genus and species, *Alafrasca sticta*, discovered during recent examination of holdings in the Entomological Museum, Northwest A&F University, Yangling, Shaanxi, China (NWAUFU), is described as a member of the tribe Empoascini of the subfamily Typhlocybinae. A checklist of the tribe in China is also provided.

Material and methods

The specimens examined in this study are deposited in the Entomological Museum, Northwest A&F University, Yangling, Shaanxi, China (NWAUFU). The entire male abdomens of the examined specimens were removed and cleared in 10% NaOH and drawn from preparations preserved in glycerin. Figures of the male genitalia were made using an OLYMPUS PM-10AD microscope. Habitus photos were taken by using a Scientific Digital micrography system equipped with an Auto-montage imaging system and a QIMAGING Retiga 4000R digital camera (CCD). Multiple photographs were compressed into final images. The body measurements are from apex of vertex to tip of forewing. The morphological terminology follows Zhang (1990) except for the nomenclature of the wing, where we follow Dworakowska (1993).

- Membranacea* Qin & Zhang, 2011
M. spinata Qin & Zhang, 2011—China (Hunan)
M. unijugata Qin & Zhang, 2011—China (Sichuan, Shaanxi)
M. plana Qin & Zhang, 2011—China (Hunan)
M. hubeiensis Yu & Yang, 2013—China (Hubei)
M. stenoprocessa Yu & Yang, 2013—China (Hubei, Guizhou)
- Nikkotettix* Matsumura, 1931
N. cuspidata Qin & Zhang, 2003—China (Hunan, Sichuan, Guizhou, Yunnan)
N. taibaiensis Qin & Zhang, 2003—China (Shaanxi)
N. erythrinae Dworakowska, 1995—China (Yunnan); Indonesia; Nepal
N. galloisi Matsumura, 1931—China (Zhejiang, Shaanxi); Japan
- Radicafurcus* Qin & Zhang, 2010
R. breviprocessus Qin & Zhang, 2010—China (Sichuan)
- Schizandrasca* Anufriev, 1972
S. ussurica (Vilbaste, 1968)—China (Hubei, Shaanxi); Far East of Russia; Korea
- Sikkimasca* Dworakowska, 1994
S. annulata Dworakowska, 1994—China (Hainan); India
- Treufalka* Qin & Zhang, 2008
T. lamellata Qin & Zhang, 2008—China (Guangdong, Hainan)
- Usharia* Dworakowska, 1977
U. ancora Zhang & Qin, 2005—China (Yunnan)
U. cassiae Dworakowska, 1984—China (Hainan); Singapore
U. constricta Zhang & Qin, 2005—China (Guangdong, Yunnan)
U. denticulata Zhang & Qin, 2005—China (Yunnan)
U. excurrens Zhang & Qin, 2005—China (Hainan)
U. marginata Zhang & Qin, 2005—China (Yunnan)
U. mata Dworakowska, 1977—China (Hunan); Vietnam
U. obtusa Thapa, 1985—China (Hainan, Yunnan); Nepal
U. spinosa Zhang & Qin, 2005—China (Yunnan)
- Velu* Ghauri, 1963
V. furcatum Zhang & Qin, 2004—China (Yunnan)
V. longiprojectum Zhang & Qin, 2004—China (Yunnan)
V. pleuroprominens Zhang & Qin, 2004—China (Henan)

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