

## The Bees of the Genus *Colletes* (Hymenoptera: Apoidea: Colletidae) from China

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### Abstract

Available information about the bees of the genus *Colletes* from China is summarized. Currently, 66 species are recorded from China, of which two species, *Colletes linzhiensis* sp. nov. and *C. spinatus* sp. nov., are described as new. Type specimens are deposited in the Insect Collection of the Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China. Thirteen species are recorded for China for the first time: *C. edentuloides* Kuhlmann, 2011, *C. pauljohni* Kuhlmann, 2002, *C. tuberculatus* Morawitz, 1894, *C. annapurnensis* Kuhlmann, 2002, *C. laevigena* Noskiewicz, 1936, *C. annejohnae* Kuhlmann, 2003, *C. eos* Morice, 1904, *C. squamosus* Morawitz, 1879, *C. wollmanni* Noskiewicz, 1936, *C. bhutanicus* Kuhlmann, 2003, *C. kaszabi* Kuhlmann, 2002, *C. uralensis* Noskiewicz, 1936, and *C. dorni* Kuhlmann, 2002. The male of *C. edentuloides* Kuhlmann, 2011 and the female of *C. pseudolaevigena* Kuhlmann, 2002 are described for the first time. *Colletes dudgeonii* Bingham, 1897 was erroneously recorded from China and is removed from the list of Chinese species.

**Key words:** taxonomy, floral association, fauna, distribution, new species

### Introduction

In order to understand bee diversity and distribution patterns in the Palaearctic region, knowledge about the Chinese fauna is essential. China is geographically and climatically extremely diverse and is neighbouring the Middle Asian centre of bee diversity in the west (Kuhlmann 2005, 2006). However, the Chinese *Colletes* fauna has been largely unexplored and only 37 species have been recorded (Kuhlmann 2000, 2002a, b, 2007, 2009a, b; Noskiewicz 1936; Wu 1965, 1982, 1987, 1992) before the authors in 2013 started a systematic investigation of the genus. So far three species-groups have been studied, the *Colletes succinctus*-group, *C. clypearis*-group and *C. flavigornis*-group (Niu *et al.* 2013a, b, 2014). The goal of the present paper is to review the remaining species-groups, mainly based on the examination of specimens from the Insect Collection of the Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IZCAS). In total 66 *Colletes* species are now recorded from China. Two species are described as new, one species is removed from the list of Chinese species, thirteen species are recorded from China for the first time and the male of *C. edentuloides* Kuhlmann and the female of *C. pseudolaevigena* Kuhlmann respectively are here described for the first time. A checklist of all *Colletes* species from China in alphabetical order of species-groups is provided (definition of species-groups following Noskiewicz (1936) and Kuhlmann *et al.* (2009)).

### Materials and Methods

If not mentioned otherwise all specimens examined are deposited in the Insect Collection of IZCAS, Beijing, China. The specimens were examined with a NIKON SMZ 1500 stereomicroscope. Attributes were recorded with a NIKON D7000 digital camera and stacked with Helicon Focus software. The terminology used in the

Wu (1982, 1987, 1992) recorded *C. dudgeonii* for China based on specimens collected in Yunnan, Sichuan and Xizang. However, no specimens of this very characteristic species, that is only known from north-western India (Kuhlmann 2003a, 2014), could be found in the collections of the Institute of Zoology in Beijing. Bees labelled as *C. dudgeonii* collected in Yunnan turned out to be *C. yanruae*, so *C. dudgeonii* is here removed from the list of Chinese *Colletes* species.

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