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**Description of a new genus, *Auritibicen* gen. nov., of Cryptotympanini (Hemiptera: Cicadidae) with redescriptions of *Auritibicen pekinensis* (Haupt, 1924) comb. nov. and *Auritibicen slocumi* (Chen, 1943) comb. nov. from China and a key to the species of *Auritibicen***

YOUNG JUNE LEE

*Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut, 75 North Eagleville Road, Storrs, CT 06269, USA. E-mail: cicaderolee@gmail.com*

**Abstract**

A new genus, *Auritibicen* gen. nov., is erected for the former members of *Lyristes* Horváth, 1926 (= *Tibicen* Latreille, 1825) from eastern Asia, designating *Tibicen intermedia* Mori, 1931 as the type species. Morphological comparisons are made among *Auritibicen*, *Lyristes*, and the American *Tibicen* species. *Auritibicen pekinensis* (Haupt, 1924) comb. nov. and *Auritibicen slocumi* (Chen, 1943) comb. nov. from China are redescrbed. Morphological comparisons are made among closely related species, *A. pekinensis*, *A. slocumi*, *Auritibicen intermedius* (Mori, 1931) comb. nov., and *Auritibicen kyushyuensis* (Kato, 1926) comb. nov. A key to the species of the genus *Auritibicen* gen. nov. is provided.

**Key words:** new combinations, *Lyristes*, *Tibicen*, eastern Asia, *Auritibicen intermedius*, *Auritibicen kyushyuensis*, *Lyristes cristobalensis*

**Introduction**

The genus *Lyristes* Horváth, 1926 [type species: *Cicada plebeja* Scopoli, 1763 (Fig. 1) from Europe; = *Tibicen* Latreille, 1825 nomen nudum] is comprised of numerous species distributed through temperate and subtropical regions in Europe, Asia, and America, mainly in high altitude or high latitude areas (cf. Hayashi, 1977; Chou *et al.*, 1997; Hayashi & Saisho, 2011). *Lyristes* Horváth, 1926 was created to replace *Tibicen* Latreille, 1825, without being universally adopted. In order to resolve the inherent nomenclatural problem of *Tibicen* and *Lyristes*, Boulard & Puissant (2014), Marshall & Hill (2014), and Sanborn (2014) wrote to the ICZN about the validity of the genera *Tibicen* and *Lyristes*. These comments are currently submitted to the vote to the ICZN. It is the opinion of Boulard & Puissant (2014) which is followed in this paper.

Among the species of *Lyristes*, the 14 species from eastern Asia (Korea, Japan, Far Eastern Russia, China, and Taiwan) form a monophyletic group, which are characterized by the following unique characters: marginal area of the pronotum yellowish; inner area of the pronotum reddish brown to ochraceous; mesonotum black and/or castaneous with large W-shaped yellowish mark medially; and others as listed in the taxonomy section below. Apart from the abovementioned debates about the right generic name for *Lyristes plebejus* (Scopoli, 1763), it is believed that a new generic name should be given, as discussed below, to the following 14 Asian species: *L. atrofasciatus* (Kirkaldy, 1909), *L. bihamatus* (de Motschulsky, 1861), *L. chujoi* (Esaki, 1935), *L. esakii* (Kato, 1958), *L. flammatus* (Distant, 1892), *L. flavomarginatus* (Hayashi, 1977), *L. intermedius* (Mori, 1931), *L. jai* (Ouchi, 1938), *L. japonicus* (Kato, 1925), *L. kyushyuensis* (Kato, 1926), *L. leechi* (Distant, 1890), *L. pekinensis* (Haupt, 1924), *L. slocumi* (Chen, 1943), and *L. tsaopaonensis* (Chen, 1943). A new genus, *Auritibicen* gen. nov., is described for these 14 species as below.

It is worth mentioning here that *Tibicina chinensis* Distant, 1905 and *Tibicen pieris* Kirkaldy, 1909, which have been treated as belonging to *Lyristes* (or *Tibicen*) by several authors, should be excluded from *Lyristes* (or *Tibicen*) because they belong to different taxonomic groups or subfamilies, Cicadettinae Buckton, 1889 and Tibicininae