



A new species of the genus *Sphedanolestes* Stål 1866 (Hemiptera: Reduviidae: Harpactorinae) from China, with a key to Chinese species

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Abstract

A new harpactorine bug, *Sphedanolestes zhengi* sp. nov., is described and illustrated based on specimens collected from southwestern China. A key to 17 Chinese species of the genus, including the new species, is provided. The bionomics of the new species is briefly noted.

Key words: *Sphedanolestes*, new species, China, bionomics

Introduction

The genus *Sphedanolestes* was erected by Stål in 1866 with the East Asian species *Reduvius impressicollis* Stål 1861 as the type species by subsequent designation (Distant 1904). The genus belongs to the tribe Harpactorini in the reduviid subfamily Harpactorinae and is one of largest genera in the family Reduviidae with 174 known species in the world (Maldonado-Capriles 1990; Putshkov & Putshkov 1996; Cai & Yang 2002; Cai *et al.* 2004; Ishikawa *et al.* 2007). The members of the genus are widely distributed in the Eastern Hemisphere and can be recognized by the following morphological characters: body oblong; head long elliptic and unarmed; pronotum unarmed, lateral and posterior angles round, median longitudinal sulcus of anterior lobe anteriorly extending to collar and posteriorly to transverse pronotal constriction; anterior pronotal lobe subequal to 1/2 of posterior lobe in length; subapical part of femora subnodulose, fore femora not distinctly thickened. Sixteen species have been recorded from China (Wu 1935; China 1940; Hoffmann 1944; Hsiao & Ren 1981; Ren 1981; Li 1981; Cai & Yang 2002; Cai *et al.* 2004; Ishikawa *et al.* 2007) prior to this study. In the recent field collecting of reduviids from southwestern China and the examination of collection of Reduviidae at China Agricultural University, Nankai University and Institute of Zoology, Academia Sinica, a new species of *Sphedanolestes* is found and described herein.

Material and methods

This study is based on the material deposited in Entomological Museum of China Agricultural University, Beijing (CAU), College of Life Sciences, Nankai University, Tianjin (NKU) and Institute of Zoology, Academia Sinica, Beijing (IZB). The external structures were examined using a binocular dissecting microscope. Male genitalia was soaked in hot 90% lactic acid for approximately 10 minutes to remove soft tissue, then in hot distilled water, and dissected under a microscope. Female genitalia was soaked in hot 5% NaOH for approximately 10 minutes to remove soft tissue, then in hot distilled water, and dissected under a microscope. The dissected parts of genital structures were placed in a plastic microvial with lactic acid under the corresponding specimens. All photos were