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A new species of *Mongolodectes* (Orthoptera: Tettigoniidae) from Alashan Plateau in China

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Abstract. The genus *Mongolodectes* is endemic to vast Mongolian Plateau and has two recorded species in the Mongolian People's Republic and one species in China's Inner Mongolia. Here we describe one new species *Mongolodectes huangi* sp. n. from China's Inner Mongolia. Further investigations are needed for precise identification and complete understanding on the fauna of the Mongolian Plateau.

Key words: *Mongolodectes*, new species, Inner Mongolia, Mongolian Plateau, Alashan Plateau

Introduction

The genus *Mongolodectes* is endemic to Mongolian Plateau, which occupies 2,600,000 square kilometers, and is a vast geographical area in Asia including Mongolian People's Republic and China's Inner Mongolia. *Mongolodectes* was proposed by Bey-Bienko (1951) for the type species *Paradrymadusa kiritshenkoi* Miram, 1929, distributed in Mongolian People's Republic, and another species *M. alashanicus* Bey-Bienko, 1951 distributed in Alashan Plateau in China's Inner Mongolia. Subsequently, one new species *M. kaszabi* Bazyluk, 1972 was described from Mongolian People's Republic. Liu (2015) provided comparison of *Mongolodectes* with its possible close relatives and the first description of the male of *M. alashanicus* based on some specimens collected from Alashan Plateau, part of Mongolian Plateau. Meanwhile, Liu (2015) indicated that the specimens identified as *M. alashanicus* are distinctly different from *M. alashanicus* as indicated by the length of female ovipositor and the shape of the female subgenital plate. The Alashan Plateau, occupying 270,000 square kilometers, has a mixture of landforms, such as mountains with expansive forests, deserts, lakes, and etc. (Yu 1998). It is possible that the Alashan Plateau gave birth to rapidly diverging species. Here we describe one new species collected from the Helanshan virgin forests in Alashan Plateau. Further revisionary work needs to be made for precise identifications and the diverse fauna of the Mongolian Plateau. The photos were taken with a large depth-of-field 3D Digital Microscope (Keyence VHX-1000C). All type specimens were deposited in Insect Collection of Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China (IZCAS).

Mongolodectes Bey-Bienko, 1951

Type species: *Paradrymadusa kiritshenkoi* Miram, by original designation.

Mongolodectes Bey-Bienko, 1951. Trudy Russk. Entomol. Obshch., 43:144; Heller & Korsunovskaya, 2009. Jour. Orth. Res., 18(1):10; Liu, 2015. Zootaxa, 3925 (2): 294.

Diagnosis. Pronotum shorter than fore femur; disk without sharp lateral keels; lateral lobes nearly smooth, without wrinkles. Fore and middle tibiae dorsally with a subapical spine only on one side, exterior in fore tibiae and interior in middle ones. Median femur armed on posterior margin of ventral surface. Genicular lobes of hind femur unarmed on anterior margin. Female brachypterous or mesopterous. Ovipositor decurved. (from Bey-Bienko, 1951; Liu, 2015)

Included species. *Mongolodectes kiritshenkoi* (Miram, 1929); *Mongolodectes alashanicus* Bey-Bienko, 1951; *Mongolodectes kaszabi* Bazyluk, 1972; *Mongolodectes huangxinleii* sp. nov.