



Species of the genus *Aragara* Walker (Diptera: Chloropidae: Chloropinae: Mindini) from China with key to species of the world

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Abstract

The genus *Aragara* Walker is newly recorded from China. The following two species are described new to science: *A. flavaristata* **sp. nov.** and *A. menglaensis* **sp. nov.** One species, *A. trilineata* Cherian, is newly recorded from China, and one new combination, *A. sinensis* (Yang & Yang), is proposed. A key to world species of genus *Aragara* is given.

Key words: Diptera, Chloropidae, *Aragara*, taxonomy, China

Introduction

Aragara Walker is a small genus of subfamily Chloropinae with six known species, which are distributed in the Oriental Region (Walker 1860; Becker 1911; Sabrosky 1977; Cherian 1984; Ismay 1990; Yang & Yang 1994). The genus *Aragara* is characterized by the combination of the following characters: body medium to large, 3–7 mm, slender or rather stout; head mainly higher than long; facial carina distinct; gena linear or narrow; frons not distinctly projecting beyond eye; frontal triangle shiny or microtomentose; arista slender, naked or rarely with short pubescence; scutum longer than wide; scutellum wider than long, disc usually flat, rarely convex; fore leg with long coxa, thickened femur and curved tibia, fore femur bearing stout spines on side of ventral surface (Cherian 1984; Ismay 1990).

In this paper, the genus *Aragara* is recorded from China for the first time with four species. Two species, *A. flavaristata* **sp. nov.** and *A. menglaensis* **sp. nov.**, are described new to science, one species, *A. trilineata* Cherian, is newly recorded from China, and one new combination, *A. sinensis* (Yang & Yang) **comb. nov.**, is proposed. A key to world species of genus *Aragara* is given.

Material and methods

Specimens were studied and illustrated with ZEISS Stemi 2000–c. Genitalic preparations were made by macerating the apical portion of abdomen in warm 10% NaOH for 17–20 min, after examination it was transferred to fresh glycerine and stored in a microvial pinned below the specimen. Specimens are deposited in the Entomological Museum of China Agricultural University (CAU), Beijing. The following abbreviations are used: *a pa*—anterior postalar seta(e), *a npl*—anterior notopleural seta(e), *ap sc*—apical scutellar seta(e), *dc*—dorsocentral seta(e), *npl*—notopleural seta(e), *oc*—ocellar seta(e), *p npl*—posterior notopleural seta(e), *poc*—postocellar seta(e), *p pa*—posterior postalar seta(e), *vte*—outer vertical seta(e), *vti*—inner vertical seta(e).

Remarks. *A. trilineata* is somewhat similar to *A. femorata* Cherian in having the body stout; frontal triangle smooth with a longitudinal groove along each lateral margin and broad median groove; fore coxa and femur black. It can be separated from the latter by the following features: antenna black; arista naked; fore femur distinctly thickened, maximum width 1/3 its length. In *A. femorata*, pedicel is brownish black and first flagellomere is yellowish brown; arista has short pubescence; fore femur is not greatly thickened, maximum width 1/4 its length (Cherian 1984).

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