

***Sphenocratus xinjiangensis* Liang, sp. nov., the first authentic record of the dictyopharid subfamily Orgeriinae (Hemiptera: Fulgoroidea: Dictyopharidae) in China**

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Abstract

A new dictyopharid planthopper species, *Sphenocratus xinjiangensis* Liang, **sp. nov.** (subfamily Orgeriinae), is described and illustrated from Xinjiang in northwestern China. This represents the first authentic record of the genus *Sphenocratus* Horváth, 1910 as well as of the subfamily Orgeriinae in China. The new species extends the range of the genus *Sphenocratus* and the subfamily Orgeriinae southeastward considerably.

Key words: Hemiptera, Dictyopharidae, Orgeriinae, *Sphenocratus*, new species, China

Introduction

The planthopper subfamily Orgeriinae, a distinct lineage within the family Dictyopharidae, is mainly characterized by morphological reduction and adaptation to arid conditions (Emeljanov & Kuznetsova, 2005). Species of the subfamily can be distinguished by the following combination of characters: body nymphlike, brachypterous; fore wings shortened, much shorter than abdomen, without claval suture; hind wings and tegulae absent; ocelli absent or minute; and abdomen lacking areas of wax glands. Currently the subfamily comprises 185 species in 38 genera of four tribes, Ranissini (7 genera, 43 species), Colobocini (1 genus, 1 species), Almanini (20 genera, 104 species), and Orgeriini (10 genera, 37 species) (Emeljanov & Kuznetsova, 2005). Members of the subfamily have been recorded mainly from the arid and semi-arid regions of Europe, Asia, North America, Africa, and Australia; they have not been found in the wet tropics of the