



Two new species of the genus *Pison* Jurine (Hymenoptera: Crabronidae) from China, with a key to the Chinese species

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Abstract

Two new species, *Pison irramulus* n. sp. from Yunnan, China, and *Pison liupanshanense* n. sp. from Ningxia, China, are described. A key to the species of *Pison* from China is provided, along with illustrations of the new species. Type specimens of the new species are deposited in Yunnan Agricultural University.

Key words: new species, China, taxonomy

Introduction

Pison Jurine is a widely distributed genus. It was erected by Jurine (1808) and includes 196 species and three subspecies so far (Pulawski 2011). As far as is known, species in *Pison* prey on spiders of different families and store the spiders as brood food (Bohart & Menke 1976; Even 1981; Starr 2004). Over the world, many worthy contributions have been made to the taxonomy of the genus. Shuckard (1838), Smith (1856, 1869), Turner (1908, 1916) and Evans (1981) described and revised some species from Australia, respectively. Cameron (1897) did some contributions to the Oriental species of the genus. Yasumatsu (1935, 1938) revised some species from Japan and China, and provided keys to the species. De Beaumont (1961) studied the Mediterranean species. Arnold (1924, 1945) and Leclercq (1965) described and keyed some species from the Ethiopian Region. Bohart and Menke (1976) listed 142 species and two subspecies in the world. Tsuneki (1983) redescribed some species from Philippine Islands while studying Larrinae of that area. Menke (1968, 1988) revised the New World species. Nauman (1990) revised the *caliginosum* species group. Antropov (1994) provided a review of the *agile* species group. However, the knowledge of *Pison* from China is scanty and fragmentary. Ten species were reported from China (Smith 1852, 1869; Sickmann 1894; Gussakovskij 1938; Yasumatsu 1939; Tsuneki 1971; Antropov 1994; Wu & Zhou 1996). In this paper, we recognize 12 species, of which two are new to science. A key to the species of *Pison* from China is also provided.

Material and methods

The specimens examined are deposited in the following Chinese institutions: Yunnan Agricultural University, Kunming (YNAU); China Agricultural University, Beijing (CAU); Zhejiang University, Hangzhou (ZJU); Institute of Zoology, Academia Sinica, Beijing (IZB).

The specimens were observed and figured with the aid of a stereomicroscope with an ocular micrometer and a drawing apparatus. The abbreviations in the text are as follows: HW, head width; HL, head length; POD, postocellar distance; OD, posterior ocellar diameter; OOD, the minimum distance between the compound eye and posterior