

## ***Isohypsibius taibaiensis* sp. nov. (Tardigrada, Hypsibiidae) from China**

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### **Abstract**

*Isohypsibius taibaiensis* **sp. nov.** differs from the other species of *Isohypsibius* with three macroplacoids and lunule in having eyespots, accessory points on the principal claws, microplacoid, cuticular bar on claws, relatively short claws, the claws of the 4<sup>th</sup> pair of legs not much greater than the others, in lacking cuticular sculpture or rogose cuticle and irregular granules of black or brown pigment on dorsal side.

**Key words:** Tardigrada, taxonomy, *Isohypsibius taibaiensis* sp. nov., China

### **Introduction**

So far only 6 species of *Isohypsibius* have been reported from China. They are *I. changbaiensis* Yang, 1999, *I. stenostomus* (Richters, 1908), *I. tetradactyloides* (Richters, 1907), *I. tuberculatus* (Plate, 1988), *I. vietnamensis* (Iharos, 1969) and *I. qinlingensis* Li *et al.*, 2005 (Rahm, 1936, 1937; Mathews, 1937; Beasley & Cleveland, 1996; Yang, 1999; Kaczmarek & Beasley, 2002; Li *et al.*, 2005). *Isohypsibius taibaiensis* **sp. nov.** is described and figured in this paper.

### **Material and methods**

In late Spring 2005 the authors collected some moss samples from the southern slope of Mount Taibai, the highest peak of Qinling Mountains. *Isohypsibius taibaiensis* **sp. nov.** was found in those moss samples. Specimens were extracted from moss samples and fixed with 85% boiling alcohol. All specimens were mounted in Hoyer's medium. Observation and measurements were made using Phase Contrast Microscopy (PCM) (Leica DM LB2) and an eyepiece micrometer. Photomicrographs were made using PCM associated with