



## The genus *Pyroderces* Herrich-Schäffer new to China, with description of a new species (Lepidoptera, Cosmopterigidae)

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### Abstract

The genus *Pyroderces* Herrich-Schäffer is recorded for the first time from China. Three species are included: *Pyroderces bifurcata* **sp. nov.** is described as new; *P. argyrogrammos* (Zeller) and *P. sarcogypsa* (Meyrick) are newly recorded for China. Images of the adults and the genitalia are provided, along with a key to the species from China.

**Key words:** Lepidoptera, Cosmopterigidae, *Pyroderces*, new species, new record, China

### Introduction

The genus *Pyroderces* was established by Herrich-Schäffer in 1853. It consists of ten species worldwide: eight distributed in the Palearctic Region, one in the Neotropical Region and one in the Ethiopian Region (Sinev 2002; Koster & Sinev 2003). Larvae live in the seed heads of Asteraceae, where they eat seeds or predate on other insect inhabitants (Koster & Sinev 2003). Prior to this study, *Pyroderces falcateella* (Stainton, 1859), *P. rileyi* (Walsingham, 1882), *P. simplex* Walsingham, 1891 and *P. sp.* were recorded from China (Caradja & Meyrick 1935; Yang 1977; Bai 1985; Heppner & Inoue 1992), but they belong to the genus *Anatrachyntis* Meyrick (Sinev 2002). The present paper describes one new species and reports on the occurrence of two other species new to China.

### Material and methods

The adult specimens used in this study were collected from nature reserves and mountainous areas by light traps. Terminology mainly follows Koster & Sinev (2003). Genitalia slides were made by mounting the dissected parts in Canada balsam following the method outlined by Li & Zheng (1996). Images of adults and genitalia were prepared with an Olympus C-7070 digital camera. All specimens examined, including the types of the new species, are deposited in the Insect Collection, College of Life Sciences, Nankai University, Tianjin, China.

### Taxonomy

#### *Pyroderces* Herrich-Schäffer, 1853

*Pyroderces* Herrich-Schäffer, 1853: 12 (key), 47.

Type species: *Pyroderces goldeggiella* Herrich-Schäffer, 1853 (= *Cosmopteryx argyrogrammos* Zeller, 1847), by monotypy.