

The genus *Scalida* Hebard (Blattaria: Blattellidae, Blattellinae) in China

ZONGQING WANG¹ & YANLI CHE

College of Plant Protection, Southwest University, Beibei, Chongqing 400716, China

¹Corresponding author. E-mail: zqwang2006@126.com

Abstract

The blattellid cockroach genus *Scalida* Hebard, 1929 is revised and redefined on the basis of all species currently included in it, including generic diagnosis, evolution of taxonomy, species list, and taxonomy. Two new species are described and illustrated from China: *Scalida quadrispinata* and *S. pyrrhocephala*. *Scalida biclavata* Bey-Bienko and *S. ectobioides* (Saussure) are redescribed and illustrated. A key to all Chinese species is provided.

Key words: Dictyoptera, new species, taxonomy, cockroaches

Introduction

The genus *Scalida* Hebard and the related genus *Sigmella* Hebard share the following features (Hebard, 1929): tegmina with longitudinal discoidal sectors, radial (discoidal) vein simple; wings with discoid-median area not broad, median vein unbranched; front femur Type B₃; small pulvilli present on 4 proximal tarsomeres, tarsal claws symmetrical, simple, arolia prominent. Bruijning (1948) stated that neither the situation of the medial and cubital veins nor the number of branches of the latter could be used for distinguishing the genera, and asserted that *Scalida* and *Sigmella* were congeneric. Roth (1991) proposed the viewpoint that the curvature of the medial and cubitus veins was always more pronounced in *Sigmella* than in *Scalida*, and that there were strong differences in subgenital and supraanal plates between the two genera; on that basis, he concluded that both genera were valid. Up to now, seven species were known worldwide. After examination of specimens in the Insect Collection of College of Plant Protection, Southwest University, Beibei, China, we found that some taxa were difficult to assign to *Scalida* or *Sigmella* according to characters on veins of hind wing, but that male genital characters were reliable.

Scalida Hebard, 1929

Scalida Hebard, 1929: 53; Roth 1991: 6

Type species: *Phyllodromia latiusvittata* Brunner, 1898: 202, by original designation.

Generic diagnosis (partly after Roth (1991)). Vertex with interocular space slightly less than or equal to distance between antennal sockets. Pronotum subelliptical and flattened, concealing head and mesonotum, with anterior margin nearly truncate and middle of posterior margin slightly convex. Tegmina and wings fully developed, the former with longitudinal discoidal sectors. Hind wings with narrow costal vein area; radial vein straight, simple; medial and cubitus veins weakly curved, the latter with short, complete branches arising distally near apical triangle, without or with 1–3 incomplete branches; apical triangle size variable. Fore femur Type B₃ (anteroventral margin of front femur with several proximal spines followed by a row of piliform spinules, terminating in 3 large apical spines); pulvilli on 4 proximal tarsomeres, tarsal claws symmetrical and