

Preface

This year we celebrate 110th birthday anniversary of Prof. Chen Sicien. With this publication, we commemorate his fundamental works on the systematics of Chrysomeloidea and follow influential *The Chrysomelidae (Coleoptera) of China and Korea* by Gressitt and Kimoto published nearly 50 years ago. As the students and the members of research group established by Prof. Chen Sicien, we continue to systematically review and revise Chinese leaf beetles. This book is a result of many years of field and laboratory investigations carried out by the members of our research group.

We treat the following Chrysomelidae subfamilies: Chrysomelinae, Galerucinae and Alticinae. The current systematic status of Alticinae and its relationships to Galerucinae are still unresolved. Some researchers suggested Alticinae should be a tribe of Galerucinae (provide citation). Based on our data, Alticinae appears to be a complex group which needs to be revised systematically based on multiple evidences such as adult and larval morphology, molecular data, morphology of metafemoral spring, etc. Here, we tentatively treat it as a subfamily same rank as subfamily Galerucinae.

Prof. Chen Sicien had studied leaf beetles for 60 years (1928-1988). He described numerous new genera and species. At the same time, he revised many genera and generic groups. Chen's works formed the research foundation for studying Chinese leaf beetles and stimulated many followers who produced many excellent publications on leaf beetles from mainland China and Taiwan Island. These are: Gressitt, JL from the United States, Chûjô, M and Kimoto, S from Japan, Lopatin, IK from Belarus and Medvedev, LN from Russia, respectively. We have begun our work on the current project in 2000. The members of our group had visited many museums worldwide, such as the United States Bishop Museum in Honolulu, Museum of Comparative Zoology of Harvard University, American Museum of Natural History, New York, National Museum of Natural History, Washington DC, the Natural History Museum, London, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, Institute of Zoology of Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, and other institutions from Italy which have collections of Chinese leaf beetles both type or authoritatively identified specimens. We also collaborated with many foreign colleagues on preliminary studies that lead to this work such as Daccordi, M. from Italy, Konstantinov AS from United States, Bezdek J. from Czech, Beenen, R. from Holland, etc. All of these works formed the base of this book and greatly improved its quality. There are 260 genera and 2304 species and subspecies of leaf beetles recorded in China, that belong to three subfamilies under consideration. Among them, 397 species and 36 genera are from Chrysomelinae, 1054 species and 124 genera are from Galerucinae, and 835 species and 100 genera are from Alticinae. Compare to the book of *The Chrysomelidae (Coleoptera) of China and Korea*, subfamily Chrysomelinae which treats 8 genera and 206 species and subspecies, 28 genera and 191 species and subspecies has been added; in Galerucinae, 30 genera, 527 species and subspecies have been added (previously 94 genera and 527 species and subspecies); in Alticinae 37 genera, 543 species and subspecies have been added (previously 63 genera and 310 species and subspecies). Thirty one new genus and 996 new species and subspecies were recorded to China. At the same time, many genera and species were revised

or synonymized.

Genera are arranged in this book based on their systematic position. Species within genera are arranged alphabetically. For each species, we listed all key information of citations, type locality and type deposition. It should be noted that simple citation style is followed in this book and complex and complete citation style is hardly accepted due to the limited spaces and a huge number of references. Type location and type deposition of some species could not be given as the related references are too hard to access. And some new combinations of species were not listed either. The distribution records of Chinese provinces of each species were given, so as the distribution record of Asian countries. For other major geographic regions which are far away from China, we just give the region name such as Europe, Australia and Africa and so on. The known host plants of species were given following distribution.

Prof. Yang Xingke is the chief editor of this book, who leads the project and organized the contents, style, and revised the manuscript. Subfamily Chrysomelinae was contributed by Dr. Ge Siqin and Prof. Yang Xingke. Subfamily Galerucinae was contributed by Dr. Nie Ruie and Prof. Yang Xingke. Subfamily Alticinae was contributed by Mr. Ruan Yongying and Prof. Yang Xingke. Drawing works were mainly done by Mr. Li Wenzhu, Mr. Wang Shuyong. Mrs. Cui Junzhi also made a great contribution to species identification, pictures of characters and word processing. Over the long course of producing this book, we have greatly benefited from the comments and helps of many colleagues, such as: Daccordi, M., Konstantinov, AS, Bezdek, J., Beutel, RG, Furth, DG, Beenen, R., Medvedev, LN, Takizawa, H., Samuelson, GA, Lee, CF. In addition, graduated students from our group, Zhang Lijie, Zhang Yong and Ge Deyan, whose research results during doctoral period contributed materials and important results for this book. Here, we gratefully thank the colleagues mentioned above and those who ever given us help and support.

China owns vast territory and riches in species diversity. Under the leadership of Academician Chen Sicién, we have yielded some great results after 70 years of unremitting efforts, but our efforts need to continue, especially in Galerucinae and Alticinae; lots of specimens are still not identified; many areas in China have not being collected; some type specimens have not been studied. We publish this book to commemorate the 110th birthday anniversary of Academician Chen Sicién. With the publication of the book and our tireless efforts in collecting and otherwise investigating Chinese leaf beetles, we built on Prof. Chen's legacy and continue his tradition, taking an ongoing research of Chinese leaf beetles to the world's advanced level.

Yang Xingke

June 2015