

Species of the Orthotyline Genus *Pseudoloxops* Kirkaldy from Japan (Heteroptera: Miridae)

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Abstract. Three Japanese species of the orthotyline plant bug genus *Pseudoloxops* Kirkaldy are dealt with. Two species, *P. miyamotoi* from Kyushu and *P. takaii* from Okinawa and Ishigaki Islands of the Ryukyus, are described as new with confirmed host records. The last-instar nymph of *takaii* is also described. A known species, *P. miyatakei*, is diagnosed, and the female is described for the first time.

Key words: Heteroptera, Miridae, *Pseudoloxops*, new species, Japan.

The genus *Pseudoloxops* Kirkaldy, 1905, of the subfamily Orthotylinae includes 33 described species in the Palearctic, Oriental and Afrotropical Regions, and Pacific islands (Schuh, 1995). The species of this genus are easily recognized by the small, rather slender and densely pubescent body, unique general coloration (pale yellow, and partly sanguineous or scarlet dorsum provided with dark spots), and anteriorly projected frons. Although several authors reported 6 species from the adjacent areas of Japan (Zou, 1980; Carvalho, 1956), Japanese fauna of *Pseudoloxops* has been represented only by a single species, *P. miyatakei* Miyamoto.

In the present paper I describe two new species, *P. takaii* and *P. miyamotoi*, with confirmed host records. The last-instar nymph of *takaii* is also described. The known species, *miyatakei*, is diagnosed, and the female is described for the first time.

All measurements in the text are given in mm. Type specimens are all deposited in the Biological Laboratory, Hokkaido University of Education, Sapporo.

Genus *Pseudoloxops* Kirkaldy

Pseudoloxops Kirkaldy, 1905: 208, type species:
Capsus coccineus Meyer-Dür, 1843, monotypic

(nom. n. for *Loxops* Fieber, 1858: 314, preocc. by *Loxops* Cabanis, 1847, Aves).

This genus currently comprises 35 species (9 Afrotropical, 17 Indo-Pacific and 9 Palearctic) that are, without exception, easily recognized by the unique coloration. A single species, *P. coccineus*, was reported from North America, but it is considered to have been accidentally introduced with European ash nursery stock (Wheeler & Henry, 1992). In Japan three species actually occur, and are readily distinguished from one another by the superficial appearance alone (Figs 1-3). Although some external diagnostic characters are unique to *Pseudoloxops*, it is difficult to consider it as a monophyletic group because of the great specific variation exhibited in the male genitalia. A much broader survey on characters is required to correctly ascertain the definition of the genus.

The majority of *Pseudoloxops* species appear to be associated with broadleaf host plants, whereas predation was observed on an European species, *P. coccineus* (Wheeler & Henry, 1992).

Pseudoloxops miyatakei Miyamoto

(Figs 1, 4-7, 16)

Pseudoloxops miyatakei Miyamoto, 1969: 75, figs. 1-