Asian plant bugs of the subgenus *Pityopsallus* E. Wagn., genus *Psallus* Fieb. (Heteroptera: Miridae)

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The Holarctic subgenus *Pityopsallus* E. Wagn. (genus *Psallus* Fieb.) is represented by 9 species in the Asian boreal forest zone. 3 new species are described: *P. yasunagai* sp. n. is related to the *P. luridus*-group, *P. nipponicus* sp. n. is close to *P. ermolenkoi* Kerzh. (both new species from Hokkaido, Japan) and *P. sachaensis* sp. n. from East Siberia (Central Yakutia) replaces the European *P. piceae* Reut. in the East Palaearctic. *P. kimi* Jos., stat. n. is a senior synonym of *P. salicicola* Schwartz & Kelton and recorded for the first time from East Siberia and Kamchatka. The Siberian *P. laticeps* Reut. is a good species closely related to the European *P. pinicola* Reut. A key to species of the subgenus *Pityopsallus*, except the little-known European *P. lapponicus* Reut. and the Chinese *P. hani* Zheng & Li, is given.

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Introduction

The subgenus *Pityopsallus* was established by Wagner (1952) for species of the genus *Psallus* Fieb. mainly living on coniferous trees, and 6 of them were recorded from the Asian boreal zone (Reuter, 1878; Kulik, 1965; Kerzhner, 1979, 1988; Vinokurov, 1979, 1982, 1985; Vinokurov & Kanyukova, 1995a, 1995b). Two Euro-Siberian species, *P. vittatus* Fieb. and *P. luridus* Reut., are distributed widely in the taiga zone of Siberia. Reuter (1878) described *P. laticeps* from West Siberia (the Yenisei River). Later this poorly investigated species was recorded by Kulik (1965, 1974) from the Irkutsk Prov. and Yakutia, but I believe that these records were based on misidentifications, because Kulik mentioned as host plants deciduous shrubs and birch, whereas *P. laticeps* lives on conifers.

In 1997, I had an opportunity to examine the *Pityopsallus* specimens collected by participants of the joint Japanese-Russian biological expedition in Siberia (1995) and Japan (1997) and, in addition, the material obtained in Yakutia during my heteropterological research. After careful examination of these collections, two new species from Japan and one new species from East Siberia were found. The long series of specimens from Central Yakutia which I have recorded earlier as *P. pinicola* Reut. (Vinokurov, 1985) proved to be the mysterious *P. laticeps*. Several distinctive features in the structure of the male genital segment were found and used for compiling an original key to Palaearctic species. Two species are not included in the key: *P. lapponicus* Reut. and *P. hani* Zheng & Li.

The depositories of the specimens are abbreviated as follows: HUE – Hokkaido University of Education (Sapporo, Japan); IBPCZ – Institute of Biological Problems of Cryolite Zone, SD RAS (Yakutsk, Russia); ZISP – Zoological Institute RAS (St.Petersburg, Russia). All measurements in the text are given in millimeters.

Descriptions of new and little-known species

Psallus (Pityopsallus) kimi Josifov, 1983, stat. n. (Figs 1-4, 26)

Psallus lapponicus kimi Josifov, 1983: 210.
Psallus salicicola Schwartz & Kelton, 1990: 941, **syn. n.**

Material examined (ZISP, HUE, IBPCZ). **Russia**: *South Yakutia*: 7 ♂, 11 ♀, Aldan plateau, Chul'makan R. mouth, left tributary of the Timpton R., 750 m, 13.VII.1995 (T. Yasunaga); 1 ♀, Stanovoi