

# Two new species of the genus *Platycheirus* Le Peletier & Serville, 1828 and a description of female *P. altotibeticus* Nielsen, 2001 (Diptera, Syrphidae) from China.

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Two new species of syrphids from China are described and illustrated. *Platycheirus pusillus* sp. n. is described from eight male and two female specimens, whereas *Platycheirus rubrolateralis* sp. n. is described based on one female specimen. A description of female *P. altotibeticus* Nielsen, 2001, is also given. A key to separate *P. pusillus* from *P. abruzzensis* (v.d. Goot, 1969) and *P. transfugus* (Zetterstedt, 1838), all with short haired fore tibia, is presented.

Key words: *Platycheirus*, new species, *P. altotibeticus*, key, China, Syrphidae

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## Introduction

The species of this paper were collected in 2002 by the second author, in the extreme northwest of Sichuan (Serxu Co.), a part of the Tibetan plateau at 4100–4600 m a.s.l. (Figure 1). The vegetation consists of short high-altitude grass, large parts of it degraded due to overgrazing by yak. The landscape is characterized by grass-covered hills, only at few places with exposed rock, and small rivers in the valleys, which are often bordered with some taller herbaceous vegetation. Woody plants are absent with the exception of dwarf *Salix* L. shrubs to 1 m high, which occur in patches on some of the hills.

The climate in this area is rather harsh, even during summer. On the collecting days the temperatures varied between close to 0°C in the morning and about 15°C in the middle of the day, with strong wind and scattered snow showers on the hills.

## Material and methods

The three species were caught by hand net while hovering among tall herbaceous plants (mainly undetermined *Asteraceae*) in the immediate vicinity of small rivers. The drawings have been made with the aid of a drawing mirror attached to a Wild M5 microscope. The photos were taken with an electronic camera.

## The Species

### *Platycheirus pusillus* sp. n.

*Type material*: Holotype, ♂ dated “CHINA, NW Sichuan vicinity of Tuanjie (Serxu Co.), UTM 47S 0399984 3667047, 4100–4600 m a.s.l., 10–21.07.2002, leg. T. Romig”. Paratypes: 4♂♂1♀ with same data as holotype. Holotype and 1♂1♀ paratypes in coll. Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde Stuttgart (SMNS), 2♂♂ paratypes in coll. T. Romig, 1♂ paratype in coll. T.R. Nielsen.