

# Molecular and morphological evidence reveals hidden new taxa in *Ochlodes ochraceus* (Bremer, 1861) (Lepidoptera, HesperIIDae, HesperIIDae) from China

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## Abstract

Two new species of *Ochlodes* Scudder, 1872, *Ochlodes pseudochraceus* Zhu, Fan & Wang, **sp. nov.** and *Ochlodes cryptochraceus* Zhu, Fan & Chiba, **sp. nov.**, are found in China and described, and *Ochlodes rikuchina* (Butler, 1878) **stat. rev.** is restored. A lectotype is designated for *Pamphila ochracea* Bremer, 1861, and a neotype is designated for *Pamphila rikuchina* Butler, 1878. Overall, the two new species are similar to *Ochlodes ochraceus* (Bremer, 1861). They, however, can be distinguished from the latter and other species in the genus: *O. pseudochraceus* has long radial spots in spaces  $R_{3-5}$  and the lateral process of the phallus gradually widens at the distal half in male genitalia; *O. cryptochraceus* has the lateral process of the phallus enlarged only at the distal tip. Based on the phylogenetic analyses of the mitochondrial COI gene, members of currently defined *O. ochraceus* are grouped into four clades. The genetic distances between *O. pseudochraceus* and *O. ochraceus*, *O. cryptochraceus* and *O. ochraceus*, *O. rikuchina* and *O. ochraceus*, and *O. pseudochraceus* and *O. cryptochraceus* are 3.2%, 2.1%, 1.9%, and 2.7%, respectively. Based on the molecular and morphological evidence, *O. pseudochraceus*, *O. cryptochraceus*, and *O. rikuchina* are treated to be distinct species. The adult habitus and male and female genitalia of the new species are illustrated as well as those of *O. ochraceus* and *O. rikuchina*.

**Key words:** Genitalia, Hubei, new species, phylogeny, Shaanxi, Sichuan, taxonomy, Zhejiang

## Introduction

The genus *Ochlodes* Scudder, 1872, described with *Hesperia nemorum* Boisduval, 1852 as the type species, belongs to the family HesperIIDae and is distributed in the Oriental, Palearctic, and Nearctic regions. Evans (1949, 1955) recognized 16 species and 23 subspecies within the genus. Chiba and Tsukiyama (1996) revised the genus based on wing pattern, male genitalia, and geographical distribution. A total of 23 species and 17 subspecies were recognized and classi-

fied into the following four groups: *venata* complex, *subhyalina* group, *bouddha* group, and a miscellaneous group. Among these, five species are distributed in the Nearctic region and the remainder in the Palearctic and Oriental regions.

China is the most species-rich area for the genus *Ochlodes*, with 16 species recorded to date (Burns 1992; Chiba and Tsukiyama 1996; Cao et al. 2019; Hsu et al. 2006; Hsu et al. 2019). During our revisional study of the genus, we observed that 16 specimens of *O. ochraceus* collected in China (Shaanxi, Sichuan, Zhejiang, and Hubei), Japan, and Russia (type locality) were grouped into four clades based on the COI gene, corresponding to two samples from Russia, six samples from Japan, three samples from Zhejiang, China, and five samples from Shaanxi, Sichuan, and Hubei, China. Based on careful examination, we found that the specimens of the four clades differed in genitalic morphology, and those from Zhejiang and other localities in China differed from all other species in the genus. Therefore, four distinct species can be recognized, and the specimens from Shaanxi, Sichuan, Hubei, and Zhejiang in China represent two new species.

## Materials and methods

### Morphological study

The specimens examined in this study were collected using an insect net and deposited at the South China Agricultural University (SCAU), Guangzhou, China. The specimens in the following institutional and private collections were also examined: Northeast Forestry University (NEFU), Harbin, China; private collection of Hideyuki Chiba (HC), Fukuoka, Japan; Osaka Museum of Natural History (OMNH), Osaka, Japan; Hokkaido University Museum (HUM), Hokkaido, Japan; Leibniz Institute for the Analysis of Biodiversity Change, Zoological Research Museum Alexander Koenig (Zoologisches Forschungsmuseum Alexander Koenig, ZFMK), Bonn, Germany; Zoological Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences (ZIN), Saint Petersburg, Russia; Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom (NHMUK, formerly BMNH). Images of the type of *O. rikuchina* were used with permission (copyright: Trustees Natural History Museum, photograph R. Crowther). All adult photographs were captured using a SONY DSC-RX100 camera. The abdomens were removed and macerated in 10% NaOH solution to examine the male and female genitalia. Genitalia were photographed using the Keyence VHX-5000 ultra-depth of field 3D microsystem. The wing venation was examined according to the method Hou et al. (2021) outlined and photographed using a smartphone. All photographs were processed by Adobe Photoshop CC and Adobe Illustrator CC 2018. The terminology for adults and genitalia follows Chiba and Tsukiyama (1996) and Fan et al. (2010).

### Molecular analysis

Based on the classification of Chiba and Tsukiyama (1996), 29 specimens of *Ochlodes* were sampled as ingroups, representing two species placed in the miscellaneous group: *Ochlodes linga* Evans, 1939 and *O. ochraceus*, and five species placed in all other species groups. Whenever possible, samples from the type localities or near the type localities were included for previously described taxa. The COI barcodes of all 29 specimens were sequenced, and the

**Table 1.** Voucher information and GenBank accession numbers for specimens used in this study.

Taxon	Data	Locality	Voucher number	Accession number
<i>Ochlodes venatus</i>	VIII. 2009	Beijing, China	SCAU_He2718	<a href="#">OQ452925</a>
<i>Ochlodes venatus</i>	VII.2018	Heilongjiang, China	SCAU_He2602	<a href="#">OQ452926</a>
<i>Ochlodes similis</i>	VI. 2021	Songpan, Sichuan, China	SCAU_He2650	<a href="#">OQ452930</a>
<i>Ochlodes similis</i>	VI. 2010	Beijing, China	SCAU_He2658	<a href="#">OQ452929</a>
<i>Ochlodes sagittus</i>	VII.2018	Kangding, Sichuan, China	SCAU_He2613	<a href="#">OQ452932</a>
<i>Ochlodes sagittus</i>	VI. 2021	Songpan, Sichuan, China	SCAU_He2647	<a href="#">OQ452931</a>
<i>Ochlodes bouddha</i>	VI. 2019	Yaan, Sichuan, China	SCAU_He2620	<a href="#">OQ452947</a>
<i>Ochlodes bouddha</i>	VII.2019	Ankang, Shaanxi, China	SCAU_He2685	<a href="#">OQ452946</a>
<i>Ochlodes subhyalinus</i>	VIII. 2018	Hanzhong, Shaanxi, China	SCAU_He2646	<a href="#">OQ452927</a>
<i>Ochlodes subhyalinus</i>	VI. 2017	Tianshui, Gansu, China	SCAU_He2617	<a href="#">OQ452928</a>
<i>Ochlodes linga</i>	V. 2018	Hanzhong, Shaanxi, China	SCAU_He2696	<a href="#">OQ452941</a>
<i>Ochlodes linga</i>	VI. 2018	Baoji, Shaanxi, China	SCAU_He2697	<a href="#">OQ452940</a>
<i>Ochlodes linga</i>	V. 2018	Baoji, Shaanxi, China	SCAU_He2698	<a href="#">OQ452939</a>
<i>Ochlodes ochraceus</i>	VI. 2019	Shennongjia, Hubei, China	SCAU_He2605	<a href="#">OQ452945</a>
<i>Ochlodes ochraceus</i>	VI. 2018	Yulin, Shaanxi, China	SCAU_He2632	<a href="#">OQ452944</a>
<i>Ochlodes ochraceus</i>	VI. 2019	Shennongjia, Hubei, China	SCAU_He2677	<a href="#">OQ452943</a>
<i>Ochlodes ochraceus</i>	VI. 2021	Baoji, Shaanxi, China	SCAU_He2678	<a href="#">OQ452942</a>
<i>Ochlodes ochraceus</i>	VII. 2022	Mianyang, Sichuan, China	SCAU_He2746	<a href="#">OQ749886</a>
<i>Ochlodes ochraceus</i>	VIII. 2016	Ningbo, Zhejiang, China	SCAU_He2614	<a href="#">OQ452935</a>
<i>Ochlodes ochraceus</i>	VIII. 2016	Ningbo, Zhejiang, China	SCAU_He2637	<a href="#">OQ452934</a>
<i>Ochlodes ochraceus</i>	VIII. 2016	Ningbo, Zhejiang, China	SCAU_He2676	<a href="#">OQ452924</a>
<i>Ochlodes ochraceus</i>	VII.2022	Ueda-shi, Japan	SCAU_He2729	<a href="#">OQ452937</a>
<i>Ochlodes ochraceus</i>	VII.2021	Ueda-shi, Japan	SCAU_He2730	<a href="#">OQ452933</a>
<i>Ochlodes ochraceus</i>	VII. 2017	Japan	SCAU_He2734	<a href="#">OQ749884</a>
<i>Ochlodes ochraceus</i>	VII. 2017	Japan	SCAU_He2736	<a href="#">OQ749885</a>
<i>Ochlodes ochraceus</i>	VII. 2021	Iwate-ken, Japan	SCAU_He2726	<a href="#">OR058650</a>
<i>Ochlodes ochraceus</i>	V. 1990	Aichi-ken, Japan	SCAU_He2727	<a href="#">OR058651</a>
<i>Ochlodes ochraceus</i>	III.2018	Primorsky Kray, Russia	SCAU_He2728	<a href="#">OQ452938</a>
<i>Ochlodes ochraceus</i>	VII.2015	Primorsky Kray, Russia	SCAU_He2732	<a href="#">OQ452936</a>
<i>Hesperia meskei</i>	X.1997	Florida, United States	CSU-CPG-LEP001666	<a href="#">GU685651</a>
<i>Hesperia attalus</i>	III.2002	California, United States	AAE3790	<a href="#">GU685041</a>

sequences were deposited in GenBank. The sequence information of two species of *Hesperia* (*H. meskei* and *H. attalus*) was downloaded from GenBank (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>) as outgroups based on prior information (Yuan et al. 2015b). Detailed information on materials and accession numbers is provided in Table 1. Our previous studies referred to details of the DNA extraction, amplification, and sequencing protocols (Huang et al. 2019a; Hou et al. 2021). Genetic distances were calculated using Kimura 2-parameter models in MEGA 7.0 (Kumar et al. 2016). Phylogenetic trees were constructed using maximum likelihood (ML) and Bayesian inference (BI) methods. ML analyses were performed using IQ-TREE 2.2.1 (Minh et al. 2020) on a local computer.

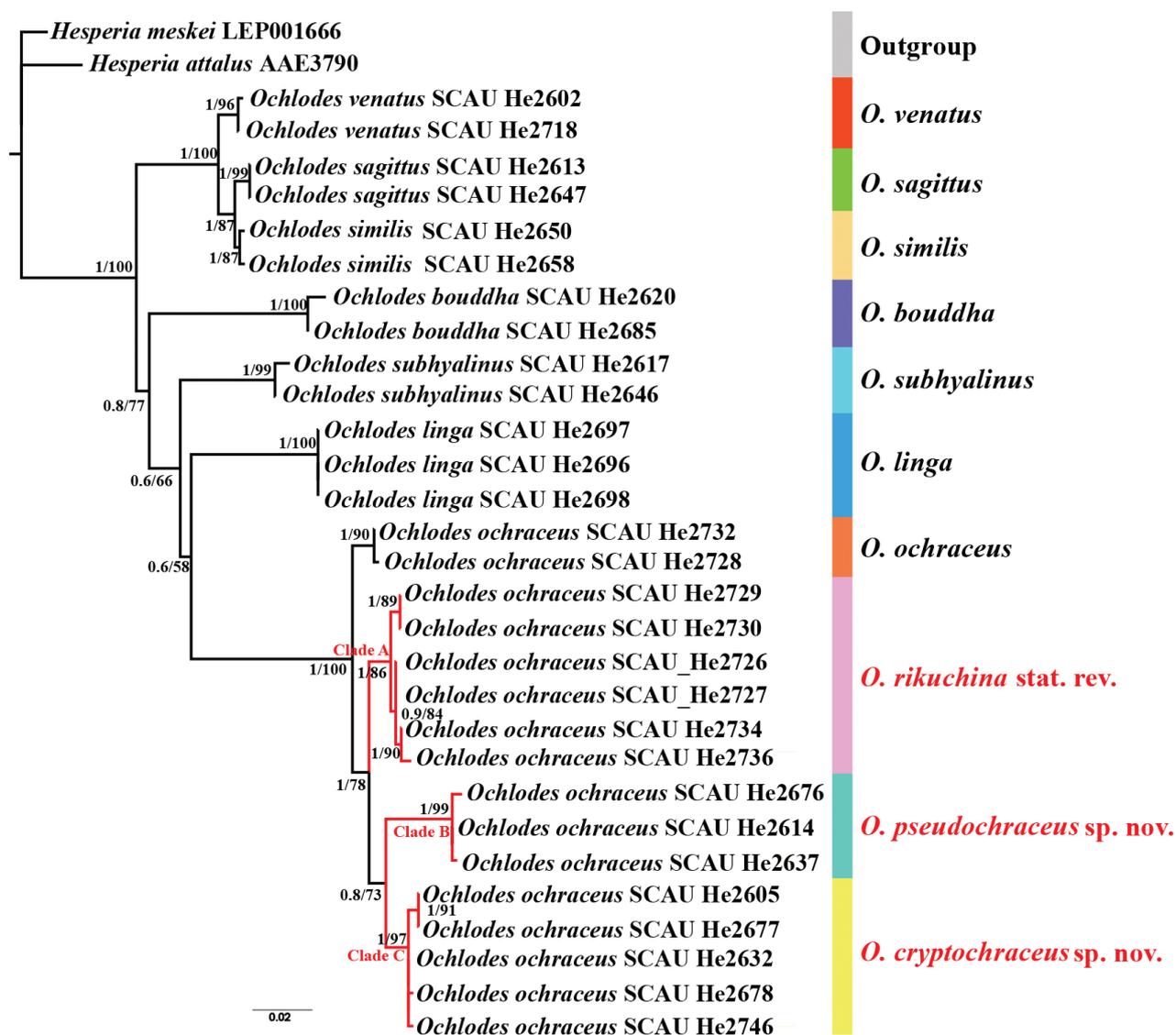
The data were partitioned into codon positions and models (1st: HKY+F+G4, 2nd: TN+F+I, and 3rd: F81+F+I) were selected using ModelFinder (Kalyaanamoorthy et al. 2017) in IQ-TREE 2.2.1 (Minh et al. 2020). The nucleotide substitution models were estimated under the Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC) with FreeRate heterogeneity, which relaxes the assumption of gamma-distributed rates. Both Ultrafast bootstrap (UFBoot) (Minh et al. 2013) and SH-aLRT branch test (Guindon et al. 2010) were performed with 1000 replicates to evaluate branch support, and the tree with the highest likelihood was selected. The BI analyses were performed using MrBayes v. 3.2.6 on CIPRES Science Gateway 3.3 (<http://www.phylo.org/>) (Miller et al. 2010) with Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) randomization in MrBayes using XSEDE 3.2.6 (Ronquist et al. 2012). Two independent runs were performed, and the starting tree was set to a random tree. Four Markov chains (three hot chains and one cold chain) ran  $5 \times 10^6$  generations simultaneously, sampling every 1000 generations, with the first 25% of sampled trees discarded as burn-in. Tracer v. 1.7.2 (Rambaut et al. 2018) was used to determine the standard deviation of the split frequency value, which was  $< 0.01$ , and the effective sample size (ESS)  $> 200$ , indicating that the runs reached stationarity. Bayesian posterior probabilities (PP) were used to evaluate branch support. Trees were visualized using FigTree v. 1.4.4 (<http://tree.bio.ed.ac.uk/software/figtree/>).

Combining DNA sequence data with other kinds of characters produces a more precise taxonomic framework (DeSalle et al. 2005). DNA barcoding helps recognize cryptic species (Nolasco and Valdez-Mondragón 2022). In this study, three different criteria were adopted, namely, morphological characters, monophyly, and genetic distance, for species delimitation based on the unified species concept described by de Queiroz (2005). If two taxa are recovered as monophyletic and have consistent morphological differences, and the genetic distance between them is not less than 0.8% (the genetic distance between *Ochlodes similis* and *O. sagittus*, which are morphologically two clearly distinct species with sympatric distribution), they are treated as two distinct species.

## Results and discussion

### Phylogenetic analysis

The phylogenetic tree (Fig. 1) constructed using the COI barcoding region shows that the members of the genus *Ochlodes* are clustered together with strong support (PP/UFBoot = 1/100). The following five lineages are recognized: 1) *venatus* complex, including *O. venatus*, *O. similis*, and *O. sagittus*; 2) *O. bouddha*; 3) *O. linga*; 4) *O. subhyalinus*; and 5) *O. ochraceus*. The miscellaneous group of Chiba and Tsukiyama (1996) is divided into two distant clades. The 16 samples of *O. ochraceus* are clustered together and recovered in four subclades: *O. ochraceus* from Primorsky Krai, Russia; clade A from Japan; clade B from Zhejiang, China; and clade C from Shaanxi, Sichuan, and Hubei in China. The genetic distance range among species calculated with COI barcode is 0.8–9.9%, of which the distance range among the three species within *venatus* complex is 0.8–1.6%, the distance among the four subclades of *O. ochraceus* is 1.9% between *O. ochraceus* and clade A, 3.2% between clade A and clade B, 2.1% between clade A and clade C, 3.2% between *O. ochraceus* and clade B,



**Figure 1.** Phylogenetic tree of *Ochlodes* based on COI barcode region, using the ML and BI methods. Values at nodes represent the posterior probabilities (PP) of BI analyses and Ultrafast bootstrap values (UFBoot) of the ML analyses.

2.1% between *O. ochraceus* and clade C, and 2.7% between clade B and clade C (Table 2). The traditional *O. ochraceus* clade, characterized by a wider and darker wing margin, is named the *ochraceus* complex.

### Taxonomy of the *ochraceus* complex and relatives

We examined the syntype of *O. ochraceus* from Primorsky Krai, Russia (<https://www.zin.ru/collections/Lepidoptera>), deposited in ZIN (Fig. 3A). Despite the label indicating its status as a lectotype, such a designation has not been published. Therefore, we herein designate the male specimen as the lectotype. Apart from the lectotype, 12 other specimens of *O. ochraceus* (five from Primorsky Krai, two from Amur, Russia, and five from Heilongjiang, China) were examined. We also examined the specimen whose labels indicate “Type, the locality Miyanoshta” at NHMUK (Fig. 3D) and 55 specimens of *O. rikuchina* from Japan. All the taxa in the *ochraceus* complex share consistent and distinct morphological characters

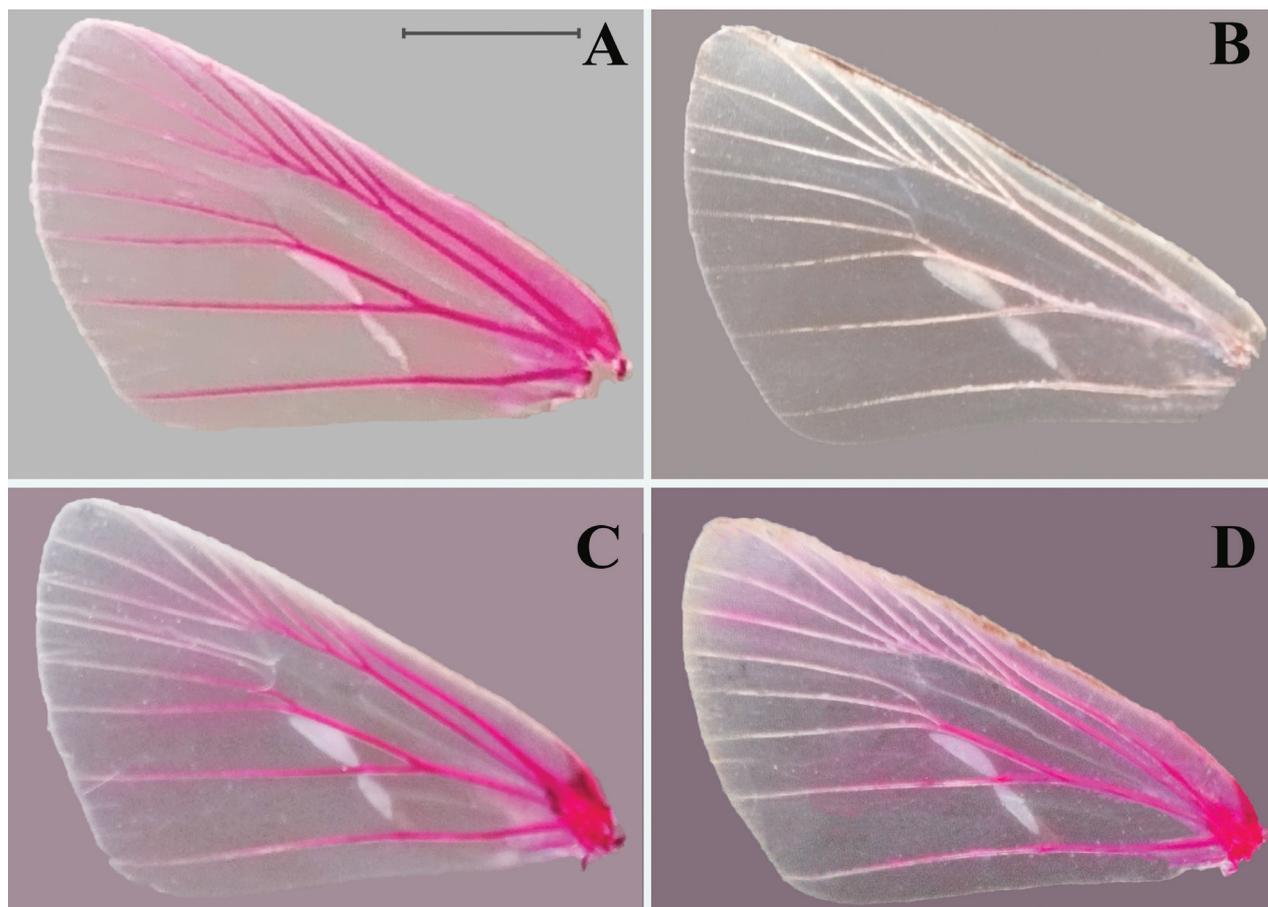
**Table 2.** Genetic distances among *Ochlodes* species based on COI barcodes.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. <i>O. venatus</i>									
2. <i>O. similis</i>	0.015								
3. <i>O. sagittus</i>	0.016	0.008							
4. <i>O. bouddha</i>	0.068	0.070	0.072						
5. <i>O. linga</i>	0.066	0.064	0.067	0.065					
6. <i>O. subhyalinus</i>	0.059	0.058	0.061	0.071	0.059				
7. <i>O. ochraceus</i>	0.069	0.070	0.073	0.086	0.073	0.067			
8. <i>O. rikuchina</i>	0.080	0.082	0.085	0.099	0.082	0.076	<b>0.019</b>		
9. <i>O. pseudochraceus</i>	0.076	0.078	0.081	0.084	0.079	0.070	<b>0.032</b>	<b>0.032</b>	
10. <i>O. cryptochraceus</i>	0.075	0.076	0.080	0.086	0.076	0.071	<b>0.021</b>	<b>0.021</b>	<b>0.027</b>

**Table 3.** Comparison of morphological differences among four species of *ochraceus* complex in *Ochlodes*.

	<i>O. pseudochraceus</i>	<i>O. cryptochraceus</i>	<i>O. rikuchina</i>	<i>O. ochraceus</i>
<b>Color of wing margin</b>	dark	dark	pale brown	pale brown
<b>Stigma</b>	thin and long, not aligned at CuA <sub>2</sub> vein.	thick and long, not aligned at CuA <sub>2</sub> vein.	thick and short, aligned at CuA <sub>2</sub> vein.	thick and short, aligned at CuA <sub>2</sub> vein.
<b>Saccus</b>	thin and long	thin and long	thin and short	thick and short
<b>Phallus</b>	lateral process gradually enlarged at distal half and serrated, not reaching the tip of phallus	lateral process only enlarged at the distal tip	lateral process not enlarged, distal half with serrated reaching the tip of phallus	lateral process not enlarged, distal half with serrated reaching the tip of phallus
<b>Uncus</b>	narrow	slightly narrow	narrow	wide
<b>Tegumen</b>	not extend distally	slightly extent distally	not extent distally	extend distally

(Table 3). *Ochlodes ochraceus* from Russia and *O. rikuchina* (clade A) from Japan share the following characters in male genitalia: the dorsodistal process is finger-like, the ventrodistal process of the valva is broad and round distally, and the lateral process of the phallus is not enlarged. In *O. ochraceus*, however, the tegumen extends distally, and the uncus is wide. In contrast, in *O. rikuchina*, the tegumen does not extend distally, and the uncus is narrow. Members of clade B can be distinguished from the other taxa by their wing patterns and male genitalia. The spots in spaces R<sub>3</sub>–R<sub>5</sub> on the forewing upper side are short and radial and away from the discocellular vein, and the lateral long process of the phallus is gradually widened with a row of small spines along the dorsal margin. In the other taxa of the complex, these spots are long and reach the discocellular vein, and the process of the phallus is only enlarged at the distal tip (clade C) or not significantly widened (clade A). In addition, the stigma of these taxa is divided into three parts: the first part in space CuA<sub>1</sub> and the second in space CuA<sub>2</sub> are markedly different, whereas the third part in space CuA<sub>2</sub> is vague. The first and the second parts of *O. ochraceus* are crescent- and spindle-shaped, respectively, differing from those in the other taxa (Fig. 2). Therefore, we believe that the currently recognized *O. ochraceus* is not a single species but includes hidden spe-



**Figure 2.** Wing venation and stigma of *ochraceus* complex. **A** *O. pseudochraceus* sp. nov., holotype, Zhejiang, SCAU He2614 **B** *O. cryptochraceus* sp. nov., holotype, Hubei, SCAU He2605 **C** *O. rikuchina* stat. rev., neotype, Iwate, SCAU He2726 **D** *O. ochraceus*, Russia, SCAU He2728. Scale bar: 0.5 cm.

cies. Based on morphological characters and molecular evidence, we describe clades B and C as two new species below: *O. pseudochraceus* Zhu, Fan & Wang, sp. nov. and *O. cryptochraceus* Zhu, Fan & Chiba, sp. nov. Additionally, clade A is recognized as a valid species, and *O. rikuchina* stat. rev. is restored.

In the previous studies, *O. ochraceus* has been recorded in Zhejiang, China (Tong 1993; Chou 1994; Yang et al. 1994; Chu et al. 2017). However, the specimens illustrated by Tong (1993), Chou (1994) (female), and Yang et al. (1994) are *O. linga*. We observed no specimens or photographs of true *O. ochraceus* collected in Zhejiang. Similarly, the specimens illustrated in most previous studies (Chiba and Tsukiyama 1996: pl. 1 figs 20, 22; Cai et al. 2011; Yuan et al. 2015a; Wu and Hsu 2017) are *Ochlodes cryptochraceus* Zhu, Fan & Chiba, sp. nov., whereas the specimen illustrated in Chu et al. (2017) is *Ochlodes pseudochraceus* Zhu, Fan & Wang, sp. nov.

Butler (1878) described *Pamphila rikuchina* based on an unstated number of specimens from Rikuchu, an old name of northeastern Japan which includes most of current Iwate and a part of Akita prefecture, erroneously naming it after “Rikuchin” from the handwriting of M. A. Fenton (Matsuda 1995). In addition, Butler (1878) did not illustrate this species, nor specify the sex of the specimen(s) he examined. However, his description, “primaries with two ochreous spots at the end of the cell (the upper one punctiform), secondaries with an



**Figure 3.** Adults of four *Ochlodes* species **A–C** *O. ochracea* **A** lectotype, male, Primorsky Kray, Russia **B** male, Primorsky Kray, Russia, SCAU He2728 **C** male, Amur, Russia **D–G** *O. rikuchina* stat. rev. **D** female, Miyanoshiba, Japan (NHMUK) **E** neotype, male, Iwate, Japan (designated herein), SCAU He2726 **F** male, Japan, SCAU He2736 **G** female, Japan, SCAU He2727 **H** *Augiades ochracea* var. *ampittiformis*. holotype, female, Tokyo, Japan **I–K** *O. pseudochraceus* sp. nov. **I** holotype, male, Zhejiang, SCAU He2614 **J** paratype, male, Zhejiang, SCAU He2676 **K** paratypes, female, Zhejiang, SCAU He2637 **L–N** *O. cryptochraceus* sp. nov. **L** holotype, male, Hubei, SCAU He2605 **M** paratype, male, Shaanxi, SCAU He2678 **N** paratypes, female, Shaanxi, SCAU He2632.

arched series of five ochreous spots on the discal” is clear enough to recognize the type is of female. Evans (1949) mentioned a female type specimen from Japan. We examined the female specimen of *Pamphila rikuchina* deposited in NHMUK (Fig. 3D), which indicates that the female specimen collected from Miyanoshita in [18]87 is not the syntype examined by Butler (1878). Blanca Huertas (pers. comm.) conducted a thorough search at NHMUK, including the Evans’ reference collection, but she did not find any other specimen labelled as the type of this taxa or with Butler’s label, implying that the syntype(s) is likely lost. Considering this, a neotype designated for this name *rikuchina* is necessary to stabilize the taxon.

According to Article 75.3 of ICZN (1999), the exceptional need for this neotype designation, apart from the loss of the name-bearing syntype specimen(s), was based on the following: (1) The status of *O. rikuchina* (Butler, 1878) has not been settled, and it was treated as a synonym of *O. ochraceus* (Evans 1949; Chiba and Tsukiyama 1996; Yuan et al. 2015a) or as a subspecies of *O. ochraceus* (Kudrna 1974; Kawazoé and Wakabayashi 1976; Lee 1982). Our morphological and molecular studies show that *O. rikuchina* is a valid species. (2) This species can be distinguished from the other taxa in the *ochraceus* complex by the club of antenna being thin and long, the male genitalia having the tegumen that does not extend distally, the uncus being narrow, and the phallus with distal half of lateral process not enlarged. (3) The neotype should be a female specimen based on the origin description (Butler 1878), but it is difficult to identify species based on a female in HesperIIDae, given that most specimens in the genus *Ochlodes* are males. To secure the nomenclatural stability, we designated a male specimen from Iwate (type locality) as a neotype for *O. rikuchina* based on our morphological and molecular studies.

**Neotype designation:** Omorisawa, Isawa, Oshu-shi, Iwate prefecture, Japan, 31.VII.2010, S. Sakuratani leg// SCAU\_He 2726// (SCAU) (Fig. 3E). For detailed description, see Taxonomy below.

Matsumura (1919) described *Augiades ochracea* var. *ampittiformis* based on a single female specimen from Nakano, near Tokyo, Japan, which is currently deposited in HUM. According to Article 73.1.2 of ICZN (1999), we consider that this female specimen to be the holotype fixed by monotypy based on the statement of only ‘one female specimen’ provided in the original description. We examined the holotype of *Augiades ochracea* var. *ampittiformis* (Fig. 3H) and considered that the characters of the original description, “both wings with much smaller spots, an indistinct tiny anterior spot on the discocellular, and two tiny spots respectively in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> interspaces”, represent only an individual variation of *O. rikuchina*. This was due to the size of the wing pattern of *O. rikuchina* being slightly variable among individuals. The upper spot in the discal cell is indistinct (Fig. 3H; Chiba and Tsukiyama 1996: pl 3 fig. 1) or ranges from a small dot (Kawazoé and Wakabayashi 1976) to a spot slightly smaller than the lower spot in the female (Fig. 3G); In contrast, in the other species of the *ochraceus* complex, the upper spot is not smaller than the lower spot. Therefore, we treat *ampittiformis* as a junior subjective synonym of *rikuchina*.

Lee (1982) noted that it seemed reasonable to regard the Korean population as the nominate subspecies *ochraceus*. After carefully examining the photographs, it is tentatively concluded that those illustrated in Lee (1982: pl. 63 fig. 243 excluding C, D) are of *O. ochraceus*. Further investigation, however, is required.

Chiba and Tsukiyama (1996) treated three subspecies of *O. venatus* sensu Evans (1949), *similis*, *sagittus*, and *hyrcana* (now *sylvanus*), as distinct species and placed them in the *venata* complex. We follow the treatment based on morphological characters and their sympatric distribution.

Morphological characters are considered inadequate for the identification of skipper butterflies (Ackery et al. 1999), and it is common, particularly in Hesperiiidae, for a complex of sibling species with similar morphological characters to be recognized as one species (Hebert et al. 2004; Burns and Janzen 2005; Huang et al. 2019b; Huang 2021). As taxonomic and biological research progresses, the relationships among species become clearer, often resulting in the recognition of hidden taxa. Further study is required to investigate the possible sympatry of the new species with *O. ochraceus* in Zhejiang.

### Taxonomic accounts

#### ***Ochlodes ochraceus* (Bremer, 1861)**

Figs 3A–C, 4G, H

*Pamphila ochracea* Bremer, 1861: 473 (type locality, original label: Ussuri).

Lectotype (location: Primorsky Kray, Russia), designated herein.

*Ochlodes ochracea*: Evans 1949: 353; Chiba and Tsukiyama 1996: 16, pl 1 fig. 19; Tuzov et al. 1997: 129; Wang 1999: 286; Zhou and Zhu 2003: 196.

*Ochlodes ochracea rikuchina*: Lee 1982, pl 63 figs 243A, B.

**Diagnosis.** Antenna with black and white stripes, club thick. Male genitalia ( $n = 5$ ): tegumen extend distally; uncus wide; valva with dorsodistal process finger-like and round at tip, ventrodorsal process widen and round; phallus with lateral process longer than subzonal sheath, distal half not enlarged and serrated reaching tip of phallus.

**Specimens examined.** **Lectotype**, ♂, Primorsky Kray, Russia (ZIN); 1♂, SCAU\_He2728, 2.III.2018, Primorsky kray, Chuguevsky district, Russia (OMNH); 1♂, SCAU\_He2731, 7.VII.2015, Primorsky kray, Spassky district, Russia (OMNH); 1♂, SCAU\_He2732, 7.VII.2015, Primorsky Kray, Spassky district, Russia (OMNH); 1♂, 7.III.2018, Primorsky Kray, Chuguevsky district, Russia, Golovizin V. Col; 1♂, 7 VII 2016, Primorsky Kray, Chuguevsky district, Russia, Golovizin V. Col; 2♂, 6.VII.1974, Maoershan, Heilongjiang Province (NEFU); 1♂, Amur (ZFMK Lep153522); 1♂ VI 1927, Maoershan, Heilongjiang Province (ZFMK); 1♂, 7.VII.2016, Acheng district, Heilongjiang Province, (HC).

**Distribution.** China (Heilongjiang, Jilin); Russia (Far East); Korea.

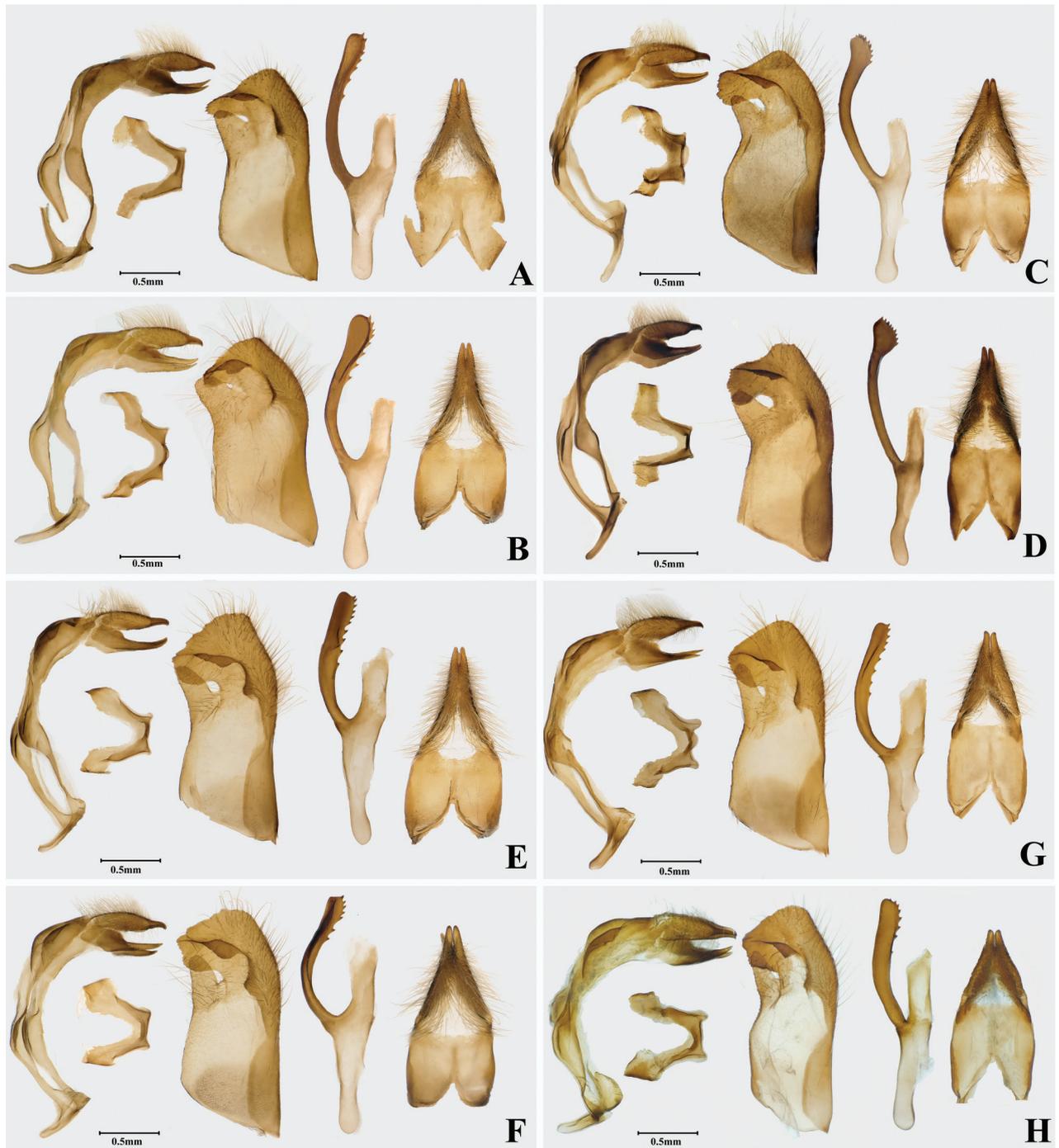
#### ***Ochlodes rikuchina* (Butler, 1878), stat. rev.**

Figs 3D–H, 4E, F, 5C

*Pamphila rikuchina* Butler, 1878: 285. Neotype ♂, designated herein (type locality: Oshu-shi, Iwate prefecture, Japan).

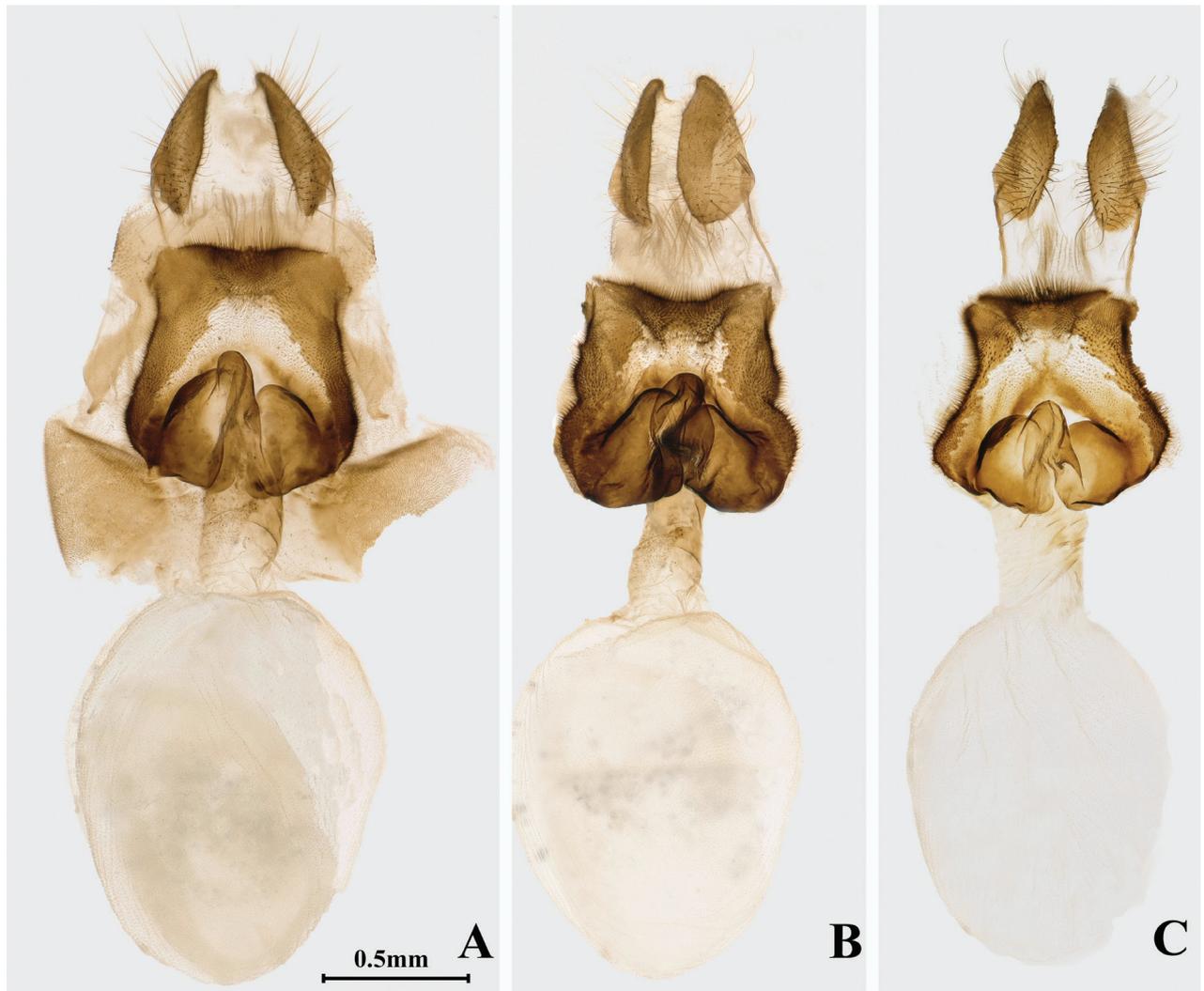
*Augiades ochracea* var. *ampittiformis* Matsumura, 1919: 737–738 (type locality: Nakano near Tokyo, Japan).

*Ochlodes ochracea rikuchina*: Kudrna 1974; Kawazoé and Wakabayashi 1976.



**Figure 4.** Male genitalia of four *Ochlodes* species **A, B** *O. pseudochraceus* sp. nov. **A** holotype, male, SCAU He2614 **B** paratypes, male, SCAU He2676 **C, D** *O. cryptochraceus* sp. nov. **C** holotype, male, SCAU He2605 **D** paratypes, male, SCAU He2678 **E, F** *O. rikuchina* stat. rev. **E** male, SCAU He2726 **F** male, SCAU He2736 **G, H** *O. ochraceus* **G** male, SCAU He2728 **H** male, Amur, Russia.

**Specimens examined. Neotype**, ♂, SCAU\_He 2726, 31.VII.2010, Omorisawa, Isawa, Oshu-shi, Iwate prefecture, Japan, S. Sakuratani leg; **type**, ♀, Miyanoshita, Japan (NHMUK//BMNH(E) #1055523); 1♂, SCAU\_He 2729, 1♂, SCAU\_He 2730, 12.VII.2021, Ueda-shi, Japan; 1♂, SCAU\_He 2734, Japan; 1♀, SCAU\_He2727, 17.VIII.1990, Aichi-pref., Mt. Naganoyama, Japan, Yamanaka leg.; 1♂, 31.VII.2010, S. Sakuratani leg., (HC); 1♂, 7.VII.2001, Miyagi-pref., Ishinomaki, Japan, S. Saku-



**Figure 5.** Female genitalia of four *Ochlodes* species **A** *O. pseudochraceus* sp. nov., SCAU He2637 **B** *O. cryptochraceus* sp. nov., SCAU He2678 **C** *O. rikuchina* stat. rev., SCAU He2727.

ratani leg., (HC); 8♂, 7♀, 17.VII.1997, Gunma-pref., Mt. Haruna, Japan, H. Chiba leg., (HC); 1♂, 28.VII.1976, Gunma-pref., Hotaka, Japan, H. Chiba leg., (HC); 7♂, 1♀, 5.VI.1977, Tokyo, Itsukaichi, Japan, H. Chiba leg., (HC); 1♂, 30.V.1971, Tokyo, Okutama Japan, (HC); 1♂, 4.VII.1996, Tochigi-pref., Shinobara, Japan, S. Hashimoto leg., (HC); 1♂, 18.VII.1976, Nagano-pref, Lake Matsubara Japan, (HC); 2♂, 5.V.2007, Nagano-pref, Azumi Japan, (HC); 1♂, 7.VII.1996, Nagano-pref., Togakushi, Japan, A. Okubo leg., (HC); 1♂, 15.VII.1995, Nagano-pref., Kaida, Japan, Yamanaka leg., (HC); 3♂, 1♀, 2.VIII.1997, Nagano-pref., Kaida, Japan, Yamanaka leg., (HC); 4♂, 1♀, 17.VIII.1990, Aichi-pref., Mt. Naganoyama, Japan, Yamanaka leg., (HC); 1♂, 1♀, 20.VI.1995, Aichi-pref. Iwanami, Japan, Yamanaka leg., (HC); 1♂, 27.V.1990, Gifu-pref., Nagataki, Japan, H. Yamanaka leg., (HC); 1♂, 16.VI.1991, Okayama-pref., Niimi, Japan, Osaka leg., (HC); 2♂, 28.VI.1998, Okayama-pref., Kawakami Japan, (HC); 1♂, 20.V.1998, Miyazaki-pref., Takachiho, Japan, M. Murakami leg., (HC); 1♂, 12.VIII.1998, Miyazaki-pref., Takachiho, Japan, Murakami leg., (HC).

**Diagnosis.** Antenna with black and white stripes, club thin and long. Male genitalia: tegumen not extend distally; uncus narrow; phallus with lateral process almost equal to subzonal sheath and not enlarged, distal half serrated.

**Redescription.** Forewing length  $15 \pm 0.5$  mm in males and 15.5 mm in females (Fig. 3E–G). Antenna longer than half length of forewing. Labial palpi: second segment porrect and covered with long brown hairs, third segment short.

**Male** (Fig. 3E, F). Forewing upper side: ground color brown with orange spots. Spots in spaces  $R_1$ – $R_5$  long radial and connected to discocellular vein; spots in space  $M_1$  to  $CuA_2$  form a broad band, of which spot in space  $M_1$  very small; cell orange; stigma black-grey, thin and short. Hindwing upper side: ground color same as forewing, central part including cell and spaces  $Rs$ - $CuA_2$  orange. Wing under side: ground color orange-yellow, with spots orange, and blurred.

**Female** (Fig. 3G). Different from male in reduced spots in spaces  $R_1, 2$ ; only a couple of cell spots present on forewing; cell spot and spots in spaces  $Rs$ - $CuA_2$  short and small on hindwing.

**Male genitalia** ( $n = 3$ ) (Fig. 4E, F). Tegumen not extend distally and shorter than uncus; uncus narrow and bifurcated at distal tip, with closely aligned arms; gnathos well-developed and bifid; valva long and narrow, dorsodistal process narrow and long, ventrodistal process widened and angled at the tip; phallus with lateral process almost equal to subzonal sheath, distal half not enlarged and serrated reaching the tip of phallus; juxta horseshoe shaped.

**Female genitalia** (Fig. 5C). Papilla analis irregularly triangular in dorsal view; lamella antevaginalis trilobed shaped, lamella postvaginalis U-shaped, with upper margin straight and densely covered with fine hairs and spines; ductus bursae thick and short; bursa copulatrix oblong and membranous.

**Distribution.** Japan (Honshu, Shikoku and Kyushu).

***Ochlodes pseudochraceus* Zhu, Fan & Wang, sp. nov.**

<https://zoobank.org/ODDA3E56-35C3-4AEB-B99C-AF9108FAE621>

Figs 3I–K, 4A, B, 5A

*Ochlodes ochracea*: Chu et al. 2017: 421.

**Type material. Holotype:** ♂. 1.VIII.2016, Simingshan, Ningbo City, Zhejiang province, P. R, China, leg. Houshuai Wang & Shuqin Ji. SCAU\_He2614. **Paratypes:** 1♂. 1♀. SCAU\_He2637 (female) and SCAU\_He2676 (male) with the same data as holotype.

**Diagnosis.** Spots in spaces  $R_3$ – $R_5$  on forewing upper side radial and far from discocellular vein. Male genitalia: lateral process of phallus with distal half gradually enlarged, with a row of small spines. Female genitalia: upper margin of lamella postvaginalis straight.

**Description.** Forewing length 15 mm in males and 14 mm in females (Fig. 3I–K). Antenna longer than half length of forewing. Labial palpi, second segment porrect and covered with long brown hairs, third segment short.

**Male** (Fig. 3I, J). Forewing upper side: ground color dark brown with orange-yellow spots. Spots in spaces  $R_3$ – $R_5$  short and radial, far from discocellular vein; spots in space  $M_1$  to  $CuA_2$  form a broad band, of which spot in space  $M_1$  very small; cell orange-yellow; stigma black-grey, thin and long. Hindwing upper side: ground color same as forewing, central part including cell and spaces  $Rs$ - $CuA_2$  orange-yellow. Wing under side: ground color yellow-brown, with spots yellow, and blurred.

**Female** (Fig. 3K). Different from male in reduced spots in spaces  $R_3$  and  $M_1$ , only a pair of small cell spots present on forewing; cell spot and spots in spaces  $Rs-CuA_2$  short and small on hindwing.

**Male genitalia** (Fig. 4A, B). Tegumen slightly shorter than uncus; uncus bifurcated at distal tip with closely aligned arms; gnathos well developed and bifid; valva long and broad, dorsodistal process triangular, ventrodistal process broad and blunt, rounded with small spines at apex, posterior angle ossified but not prominent; lateral process of phallus long, gradually enlarged in distal half, with a row of small spines along dorsal margin; juxta horseshoe shaped.

**Female genitalia** (Fig. 5A). Papilla analis irregularly triangular in dorsal view; lamella antevaginalis trilobed shaped, lamella postvaginalis U-shaped, with upper margin straight and densely covered with fine hairs and spines; ductus bursae thick and short; bursa copulatrix oblong and membranous.

**Etymology.** The scientific name is a masculine adjective and derived from the Greek word *pseudēs* (meaning false) and the species name *ochraceus*, referring to their similarity.

**Distribution.** China (Zhejiang, Anhui).

***Ochlodes cryptochraceus* Zhu, Fan & Chiba, sp. nov.**

<https://zoobank.org/65EBAE39-0BDC-4829-BCA3-E80C953E3704>

Figs 3L–N, 4C, D, 5B

*Ochlodes ochracea*: Chiba and Tsukiyama 1996: pl 1 figs 20, 22; Cai et al. 2011: 312; Yuan et al. 2015: 513; Wu and Hsu 2017: 1396.

**Type material. Holotype:** ♂, SCAU\_He2605, 1.VI.2019, Shennongjia, Hubei province, P. R, China. **Paratypes:** 1♂, SCAU\_He2678, 20.VI.2021, Miaowangshan, Baoji, shaanxi province, P. R, China, leg. Liping Zhou; 1♂, SCAU\_He2680, 13.VI.2018; 2♂, 6.VII.2018; 1♂, 10.VI.2011, Liukan, Hanzhong, Shaanxi province, leg. Liping Zhou; 1♂, 19.VI. 2018; 1♂, 20.VI. 2018; 1♀, 6.VII.2018, Miaowangshan, Baoji, Shaanxi province, leg. Liping Zhou; 1♂, 10.VII.2011; 1♀, SCAU\_He2632, 6.VI.2018; 1♀, 10.VII.2011, Heilongtan, Yulin, Shaanxi province, leg. Liping Zhou; 1♂, 12.VI.2018, Huangguan, Ankang, Shaanxi province, leg. Liping Zhou; 1♂, 24.VI.1993, Wanhuashan, Yanan, Shaanxi province, (HC); 1♂, 5.VII.1993, Qinlin, Shaanxi province, (HC); 1♀, SCAU\_He2677, 1.VI.2019, Shennongjia, Hubei province; 1♂, 1.VII.2022, Mianyang, Sichuan province; 1♂, Yunnan province, P. R, China, leg. Xiaoling Fan & Min Wang.

**Diagnosis.** Spots in spaces  $R_1-R_5$  on forewing upperside long radial, reaching discocellular vein. Male genitalia: lateral process of phallus only distally enlarged. Female genitalia: upper margin of lamella postvaginalis slightly concave.

**Description.** Forewing length  $15 \pm 0.5$  mm in males and 14–15 mm in females (Fig. 3L–N). Antenna longer than half length of forewing, and black and white stripes extend to club.

**Male** (Fig. 3L, M). Forewing upper side: ground color dark brown with orange-red spots. Spots in spaces  $R_1-R_5$  long radial and connected to discocellular vein; spots in spaces  $M_1-CuA_2$  form a broad band, of which spot in space  $M_1$

very small. Cell orange-red; stigma black-grey and thick. Hindwing upper side: ground color same as forewing, central part including cell and spaces Rs-CuA<sub>2</sub> orange-red. Wing under side: ground color red-brown, spots yellow and blurred.

**Female** (Fig. 3N). Different from male in reduced spots in spaces R<sub>1, 2</sub>; only a pair of small cell spots present on forewing upper side; cell spot and spots in spaces Rs-CuA<sub>2</sub> orange-yellow on hindwing.

**Male genitalia** (Fig. 4C, D). Tegumen slightly shorter than uncus; uncus bifurcated at end tip, with closely aligned arms; gnathos well-developed and bifid; valva long and narrow, dorsodistal process narrow and blunt, ventrodistal process irregular rectangular, and rounded with small spines at apex; lateral process of phallus long and distally enlarged with two rows of small spines; juxta horseshoe shaped.

**Female genitalia** (Fig. 5B). Papilla analis irregularly triangular in dorsal view; lamella antevaginalis trilobed, lamella postvaginalis U-shaped, with upper margin slightly concave and densely covered with fine hairs; ductus bursae thick and long, and bursa copulatrix oblong and membranous.

**Etymology.** The scientific name is a combination of the prefix *crypt* (meaning hidden) combined with the species name *ochraceus*, which refers to the cryptic species of *ochraceus*. The name is a masculine adjective.

**Distribution.** China (Shaanxi, Gansu, Hubei, Sichuan, Yunnan).

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## Additional information

### Conflict of interest

All authors declare that they have no financial or non-financial conflicts of interest.

### Ethical statement

No ethical statement was reported.

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## Author contributions

Conceptualization: MW, XLF. Formal analysis: LJZ. Funding acquisition: XLF, ZFH. Investigation: LJZ, YXH. Resources: YO, HC, SYS. Supervision: XLF, MW. Original draft writing: LJZ. Review and editing: XLF, MW, HC, YO, YXH, ZFH, SYS.

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## Data availability

All of the data that support the findings of this study are available in the main text.

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