

A colorful yet little known snout moth genus from China with five new species

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A snout moth of the species *Lista haraldusalis* spreading its wings. Credit: Dr. Mingqiang Wang

A group of beautiful snout moths from China was revised by three scientists from the Institute of Zoology at the [Chinese Academy of Sciences](#).

In their study, recently published in the open access journal *Zookeys*,

entomologists Dr. Mingqiang Wang, Dr. Fuqiang Chen and Prof. Chunsheng Wu describe five [new species](#) and two newly recorded for the country.

Despite being morphologically interesting, the snout moth genus *Lista* remains little known. Usually, its members have bright-coloured wings, often pink, orange, or yellow, which makes them strikingly different from the rest in their subfamily (Epipaschiinae). In fact, it is because of the beautiful coloration that these [moths](#) are sometimes favourably compared to butterflies. However, these moths are indifferentiable from one another on the outside.

As a result of the present study, there are now ten species of *Lista* snout moths known from China, with their world fauna amounting to thirteen. Mostly distributed in the south the East-Asian country, the genus likely originates from there.



A snout moth of the species *Lista haraldusalis* in tectiform. Credit: Dr. Mingqiang Wang

More information: Wang Mingqiang et al, A review of *Lista* Walker, 1859 in China, with descriptions of five new species (Lepidoptera, Pyralidae, Epipaschiinae), *ZooKeys* (2017). [DOI: 10.3897/zookeys.642.7157](https://doi.org/10.3897/zookeys.642.7157)

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