

# A new species in the genus *Teliphasa* (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae) from China

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**Abstract:** *Teliphasa lii* sp. nov. is described from Jiangxi, China. This new species is very similar to *T. sakishimensis* Inoue & Yamanaka, 1975 in external characters and valvae of male genitalia. It can be easily distinguished from the latter by the phallus bearing two unique horn-like spines. Images of the habitus, heads and male genitalia are provided for the new species and *T. sakishimensis*.

**Key words:** Microlepidoptera; Pyraloidea; Epipaschiinae; taxonomy

中国网丛螟属一新种（鳞翅目：螟蛾科）

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**摘要：**记述了中国江西 1 新种：李氏网丛螟 *Teliphasa lii* sp. nov.。本新种的外部形态和雄性外生殖器的抱器瓣与先岛网丛螟 *T. sakishimensis* Inoue & Yamanaka, 1975 非常相似。但本新种阳茎具 2 枚独特的角状刺突，易于与后者区分。文中提供了新种和先岛网丛螟的成虫、头部和雄性外生殖器的特征图。

**关键词：**小蛾类；螟蛾总科；丛螟亚科；分类

## Introduction

*Teliphasa* Moore, 1888, a genus of the subfamily Epipaschiinae (Pyraloidea: Pyralidae), was established with *T. orbiculifer* Moore, 1888 as the type species by Moore (1888). Its generic characters and diagnosis have been provided by Liu *et al.* (2016) in detail. Before this study, the genus contained thirteen species across Oriental, Palaearctic and Ethiopian regions (Butler 1879, 1881; Moore 1888; Hampson 1896; Ghesquière 1942; Inoue & Yamanaka 1975; Liu *et al.* 2016; Ranjan *et al.* 2022). The present paper aims to describe a new species of the genus from China.

## Material and methods

All specimens were collected at night when attracted to a mercury-vapour lamp. The specimens were hand-collected alive and killed by ammonium hydroxide. The morphological terminology follows Liu *et al.* (2016). Illustrations of adults and genitalia were taken with a Zeiss AxioCam Icc 5 camera attached to a Zeiss Stereo Discovery V12 microscope. All specimens examined are deposited in the Insect Museum, Jiangxi Agricultural University,

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## Taxonomy

*Teliphasa lii* sp. nov. (Fig. 1)

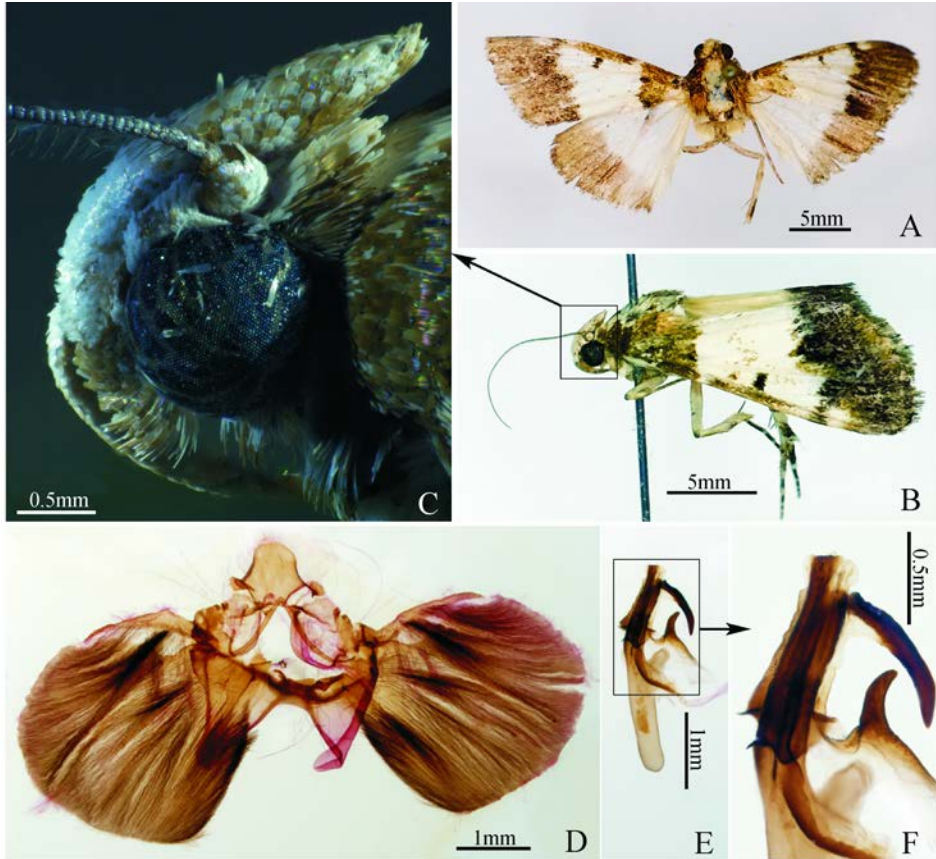


Figure 1. *Teliphasa lii* sp. nov. A, B. Adult, dorsal and lateral views; C. Head, lateral view; D. Male genitalia capsule; E, F. Phallus.

Male adult (Figs 1A–C). Forewing length 17.9–18.5 mm. Frons and vertex ochre yellow mixed with white. Labial palpus upright beyond vertex and extending to thorax, first segment ochre yellow, second segment white, and third segment ochre yellow mixed with white. Maxillary palpus blackish brown mixed with white, slightly upturned. Antenna with scape white mottled with ochre yellow, flagellum blackish brown and scattered with long hair on ventral side. Thorax white, with scattered brown scales. Tegula blackish brown, mixed with white scales, with long brown scales distally. Forewing with basal area ochreous brown mixed with black, antemedian line ill-defined; median area white, scattered with pale yellow and yellowish brown scales, and costa with dense yellowish brown scales, discal spot small, black surrounded by pale yellowish brown, discocellular spot sub-rectangular and black; distal area black mixed with yellowish brown; postmedian line black, extending from costal two thirds

obliquely outward to  $M_2$ , then arched and extending inward along  $CuA_1$ , forming a blunt angle, finally straight to dorsal two thirds; terminal line black; cilia blackish brown. Hindwing with basal two thirds white; distal one third greyish brown; discocellular spot pale greyish brown; cilia pale brown. Legs yellowish white mixed with black scales; tarsi blackish brown, white at apex of each tarsomere except black at apex of last tarsomere.

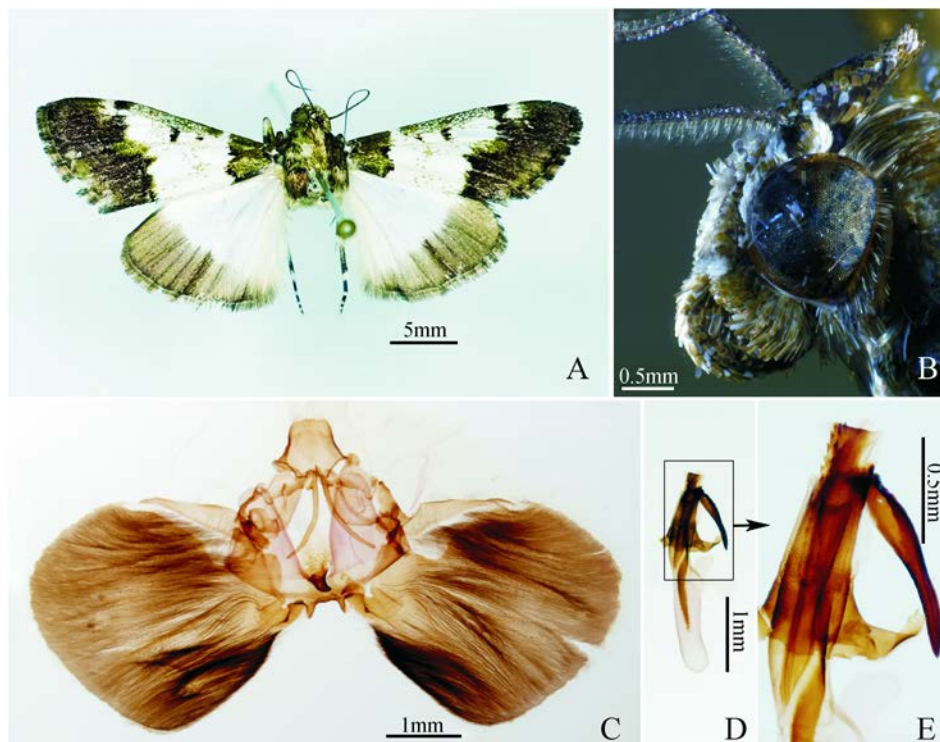


Figure 2. *Teliphasa sakishimensis* Inoue & Yamanaka, 1975 [2♂5♀, China, Jiangxi, Tongboshan, 118°15'E, 28°05'N, 900 m, 30-VIII-2012, Weichun LI, genitalia slide no. JL16013 (JXAUM)]. A. Adult, dorsal view; B. Head, lateral view; C. Male genitalia capsule; D, E. Phallus.

Male genitalia (Figs 1D–F). Uncus basally broad, gently narrowed towards rounded tip, slightly concave on lateral margins. Gnathos thin and long, distal half gradually narrowed toward blunted tip. Valva subcircular, with dense long setae. Costa well-developed, basally broad, conspicuously narrowed toward pointed tip, reaching approximate half of costal margin of valva. Juxta round, distally with small incision in middle. Saccus separated, nearly triangular, basally broad, narrowed towards round tip. Phallus nearly as long as valva, distal two fifths heavily sclerotized, bearing two small spines and two long horn-like spines.

Female. Unknown.

**Holotype.** ♂, **China**, Jiangxi, Sanqingshan, 117°58'E, 28°27'N, Jinsha, 450 m, 24-VIII-2011, Weichun LI, genitalia slide no. E16071 (JXAUM). **Paratype.** 1♂, **China**, Jiangxi, Chongyi, 114°19'E, 25°41'N, 620 m, 22-IX-1993, Yujian LIN, genitalia slide no. E15056 (JXAUM).

**Etymology.** This new species epithet honours Professor Houhun Li of the Nankai University, China, who contributed profoundly to systematic research in microlepidoptera;

noun (name) in the genitive case.

Remarks. This new species is very similar to *T. sakishimensis* Inoue & Yamanaka, 1975 in wing patterns and valvae of male genitalia (Figs 1A, 1D vs. Figs 2A, 2C). It can be distinguished from the latter by the following traits: The eye of the new species convex on the inner margin, antenna sparsely covered with hair on ventral margin, labial palpus ochre yellow interspersed with white scales (Fig. 1C); uncus of male genitalia distally round, round juxta distally with a small incision in middle (Fig. 1D), cornuti consisting of two small spines and two long horn-like spines (Figs 1E, 1F). In *T. sakishimensis*, the eye is straight on the inner margin, the antenna densely covered with hair on the ventral margin, the labial palpus brown scattered with black and white scales (Fig. 2B); the uncus is nearly straight at the distal tip, the juxta with a spine-like projection (Fig. 2C), and the cornuti comprised of a long plate and a horn-like process (Figs 2D, 2E).

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