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A remarkable new genus of the snakefly family Mesoraphidiidae (Insecta: Raphidioptera) from the Lower Cretaceous of China, with description of a new species

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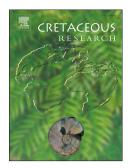
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1	A remarkable new genus of the snakefly family Mesoraphidiidae (Insecta: Raphidioptera)
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10	
11	Abstract
12	
13	A fossil snakefly species, Mesoraphidia obliquivenatica (Ren, 1994), from the Lower Cretaceous
14	(upper Barremian) of the Yixian Formation in Liaoning Province, China was discovered to
15	possess an extremely prolonged occiput, which is a remarkable feature previously unknown in
16	snakeflies. Based primarily on this feature, a new genus of the family Mesoraphidiidae, namely
17	Stenoraphidia gen. nov., is erected to contain this species. In addition, a second and new species
18	of Stenoraphidia gen. nov., i.e. Stenoraphidia longioccipitalis sp. nov., is described from the same
19	deposit. A summary of the morphological diversification of head shapes in snakeflies is given.
20	
21	Keywords: Mesoraphidiinae, taxonomy, head shape, Yixian Formation, Mesozoic

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