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The first Archelcaninae (Orthoptera, Elcanidae) from the Cretaceous Jehol Biota of

Liaoning, China

Yan Fang ^{1, 2}*, Sam W. Heads², He Wang ¹, Haichun Zhang ¹, Bo Wang ¹

¹State Key Laboratory of Palaeobiology and Stratigraphy, Nanjing Institute of Geology and

Palaeontology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Nanjing 210008, China

²Illinois Natural History Survey, Prairie Research Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana-

Champaign, 1816 South Oak Street, Champaign, Illinois 61820, USA

*Corresponding author; E-mail: yanfang@nigpas.ac.cn

Abstract

A new genus and species of Elcanidae (Orthoptera: Elcanoidea) is described from the Yixian

Formation of northeastern China. Jeholelcana yanensis gen. et sp. nov., represents the first

Archelcaninae to be formally described from the Mesozoic of China. The new genus with

both forewing and hind tibiae well preserved differs from all other Archelcaninae in aspects

of forewing venation and morphology of the metatibial spurs. The new specimen provides

new information on the characteristics of the family Elcanidae. The new species, with both

forewing and metaleg preserved, sheds light on the venation of elcanids with leaf-like

metatibial spurs, previously known only from nymphs. The types of metatibial spurs of the

family Elcanidae are discussed.

Key words: Orthoptera, Elcanidae, Cretaceous, new taxa, China.

1. Introduction

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