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Taxonomic Notes on the Vespinae of Yunnan (Hymenoptera: Vespidae)

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ABSTRACT

In recent years, five new species of Vespinae have been described from Yunnan Province, China. A thorough assessment of these taxa, including study of color differences and compilation of measurements of specimens from six entomological collections, shows that the new taxa are merely variants of existing, nominal species. Thus, all five are synonymized here, as follows: *Vespa hekouensis* Dong and Wang, and *Vespa maguanensis* Dong = *Vespa analis* Fabricius; *Vespula yulongensis* Dong and Wang = *Vespula flaviceps* (Smith); *Vespula nujiangensis* Dong and Wang = *Vespula orbata* (du Buysson); and *Vespula gongshanensis* Dong = *Vespula rufa* (Linnaeus), all NEW SYNONYMY. The synonymies bring the current number of vespine species recognized worldwide to 67.

Key words: Vespidae, Vespinae, Yunnan.

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