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Two new species of the genus *Mycterothrips* from Western Iran (Thysanoptera: Thripidae)

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Abstract

Two new species of *Mycterothrips* Trybom (Thripidae: Thripinae), *M. hamedaniensis* **sp. n.** and *M. weii* **sp. n.**, are described and illustrated from Hamedan province in Western Iran.

Key words: Thysanoptera, Thripidae, Mycterothrips, new species, Iran

Introduction

Mycterothrips Trybom (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) with 27 known species (Mound, 2011) are leaf-feeding thrips, and some of them are associated with agricultural crops, such as *M. glycines* in Japan and *M. setiventris* in India (Masumoto & Okajima, 2006). Adults have been collected from various habitats, such as living leaves, grass, flowers, dead leaves, dead branches and leaf litter. Some species exhibit distinct sexual dimorphism of the antennal segments, with segment VI often much longer in males than in females (Masumoto & Okajima, 2006). A key to all known species of this genus was given by Masumoto & Okajima (2006), a key to seven European species by zur Strassen (2003), and a key to five species from Taiwan by Wang (1999).

Four species of *Mycterothrips* are recorded from Iran: *M. salicis* (Reuter) (Haghighian & Sadeghi, 2003); *M. consociatus* (Targioni-Tozzetti), *M. latus* (Bagnall) and *M. tschirkunae* (Yakhontov) (Bhatti *et al.*, 2009). In our sampling of thrips in Iran during 2008–2010 two undescribed species were collected from Western Iran, and these are described below. Some important characters between Iranian species of *Mycterothrips* are shown in Table 1.

species / characters	а	b	с	d	e	
M. consociatus [*]	1	0	1	0	0	
M. hamedaniensis sp. n.	0	0	1	1	1	
M. latus [*]	0	1	1	1	2	
M. salicis [*]	1	0	1	1	4	
M. tschirkunae [*]	0	0	0	2	3	
<i>M. weii</i> sp. n.	0	1	1	1	1	

TABLE 1. Some important characters between Iranian species of *Mycterothrips*. (* based on morphological characters in Masumoto & Okajima, 2006).

a) Lateral marginal setae on abdominal tergite II: three 0; four 1.

b) CPS antero-medially on mesonotum: absent 0; present 1.

c) CPS on abdominal tergite IX: absent 0; two pairs 1.

d) Male/Female of length of antennal segment VI: much longer 0; same 1; distinctly longer 2.

e) Male with setae SB1 on abdominal tergite IX: vestigial 0; about half length of S1 setae 1; as long as S4 setae 2; slightly shorter than S1 setae 3; minute 4.