



***Trichromothrips* Priesner (Thysanoptera, Thripidae) of Japan and Taiwan, with descriptions of four new species and a review of the *Trichromothrips* group of genera**

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Abstract

The *Trichromothrips* genus-group is defined and reviewed with a key to the 13 included genera. Four new species of the genus *Trichromothrips* Priesner are described from Japan and Taiwan, and a key to the species of Japan and Taiwan is provided. *Trichromothrips* (*Dovithrips*) Bhatti is recognized as synonym of *Trichromothrips* here.

Key words. Thysanoptera, Thripidae, *Trichromothrips*, *Trichromothrips* genus-group, Japan, Taiwan

Introduction

Members of the genus *Trichromothrips* Priesner are slender and fragile leaf-feeders, and often have vividly coloured bodies. This genus is relatively large in the family Thripidae, with 27 species recorded in a recent revision (Bhatti, 2000). In addition, one species was described subsequently from Australia that lacks major setae on the pronotum and lives on bracken fern, *Pteridium esculentum* [Pteridaceae] (Mound & Masumoto, 2004). From Japan and Taiwan, only one widespread species in this genus, *T. xanthius* (Williams), was known previously (Kurosawa, 1968; Wang, 2002). Recently, however, four undescribed species have been found in this area. One is a beautiful species with red internal hypodermal pigment in the abdomen and with a characteristic chaetotaxy on abdominal tergum VIII. This species has been found mainly on the young leaves of *Aucuba japonica* [Cornaceae] (Okajima, 2000). Initially it was known from numerous females only at Fukiage Gyoen in the Imperial Palace, Tokyo, but was found recently on Miura Peninsula, Kanagawa Prefecture, near Tokyo. A second species, found only in Taiwan, is similar to an