



New and little-known species of the genus *Tachydromia* Meigen (Diptera, Hybotidae) from Thailand

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Abstract

Six new species of the genus *Tachydromia* Meigen are described from Thailand: *T. doi* **sp. nov.**, *T. monocercus* **sp. nov.**, *T. ocellata* **sp. nov.**, *T. phanensis* **sp. nov.**, *T. phu* **sp. nov.**, *T. tigeri* **sp. nov.** A new species group within *Tachydromia* is distinguished and an updated key to the genus from the Oriental Realm is provided.

Key words: Diptera, Hybotidae, *Tachydromia*, new species, Thailand, Orient

Introduction

Species of the genus *Tachydromia* Meigen are likely among the most attractive flies within the Hybotidae owing to their external appearance and behaviour. They are shining black or blackish brown, usually have wings with brownish or blackish pattern and are found running about quickly on tree-trunks, logs, stones, sand, or leaves of lower herbage resembling in some respects small hymenopterans or ants (Chvála 1970). The group is almost worldwide in distribution (unknown yet from Australia) and currently includes 101 species, of which 9 species are known from the Oriental Region (Saigusa & Yang 2002; Shamshev & Grootaert 2005; Yang & Grootaert 2006).

This paper is a first contribution in the study of the Hybotidae collected during the TIGER project in Thailand (the Thailand Insect Group for Entomological Research). We describe six new species of *Tachydromia* from Thailand and provide an updated key to species in the genus for the Oriental Region. Currently, 15 species of *Tachydromia* are known from this Region and eight species in Thailand. It should be noted that most specimens examined in this study have been collected at high altitudes and this should not mislead the understanding of the occurrence of *Tachydromia*. We still see it as a genus that radiated in a temperate climatic zone such as in the Palaeartic Region and consider the occurrence on mountain tops in Thailand as Palaeartic relicts.

Material and methods

The flies were collected in Malaise traps and transferred to 75% ethanol. Terms used for adult structures primarily follow those of McAlpine (1981), although the terminology for the antenna follows Stuckenberg (1999); and for the male terminalia follows Sinclair & Cumming (2006). To facilitate observations, the termi-