



A new species of the genus *Trichromothrips* (Thysanoptera, Thripidae) from bamboo in Thailand, Malaysia and Vietnam

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Abstract

Trichromothrips dorsalis sp. n. is described from bamboo in Thailand, Malaysia and Vietnam. This new species is similar to *T. alis* Bhatti from India, but is distinguished by having large median dark areas on abdominal tergites III–VII. This is the first record of this genus from Thailand and Vietnam.

Key words: Thysanoptera, Thripidae, *Trichromothrips*, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, bamboo

Introduction

The genus *Trichromothrips* Priesner comprises medium-sized leaf feeding Thripidae. These species have a fragile slender body, and are often vividly coloured when alive. Bhatti (2000) recognized 27 species from around the world, proposed 10 subdivisions within the genus, and provided a key to 25 species. Thereafter, Masumoto & Okajima (2005) described four species from Japan and Taiwan. According to Bhatti (2000), this genus originated in South to South East Asia, because most species are known only from this area: India (10 species), Indonesia (7 species), New Guinea and Philippines (1 species each), with only one to three species from other continents (Bhatti, 1990; Nakahara, 1993). However, the genus has not previously been recorded from Thailand or Vietnam, despite some related genera being described from Thailand (Masumoto & Okajima, 2005; Nonaka & Janguvitaya, 1993, 1994).

Recently, we collected in Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia many specimens from bamboo of an undescribed species of this genus with unique body colour pattern. *Trichromothrips* species usually have either a uniformly pale or strongly bicoloured body, but with few dark spots present on the abdominal tergites. In contrast, the new species described here has dark spots on several tergites (Fig. 1).

Material and methods

Slide-mounted specimens were used. The specimens were studied by using optical microscope, mainly Olympus BX51, of 100–600 magnification, and text figures were sketched by using drawing attachment. Specimens were measured by using a micrometer eyepiece; width is across line of maximum width, head length is anterior margin of compound eyes to posterior margin of vertex. Depositories of all specimens examined including type series are Laboratory of Entomology, Tokyo University of Agriculture, Atsugi, Kanagawa, Japan. The following abbreviations are used: CPS (campaniform sensillum), MD (mid-dorsal). Scale-bars used are 0.04mm.