



The Poaceae-associated genus *Bamboosiella* (Thysanoptera, Phlaeothripidae) from India with one new species

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Abstract

Bamboosiella venkataramani sp. n. is described from India based on specimens collected on grass clumps from the Karnataka State of India. A key is provided for identification of seven Indian species of the genus *Bamboosiella*.

Key words: Phlaeothripidae, *Bamboosiella*, *B. venkataramani*, new species, key, India.

Introduction

Globally 3500 thrips species are reported as belonging to the family Phlaeothripidae of the suborder Tubulifera (Mound & Minaei 2007; Thrips Wiki 2014), of which about 400 are described or recorded from India (Ananthkrishnan & Sen, 1980). The genus *Bamboosiella* is found mainly in tropical and subtropical parts of the world, and currently comprises 28 species from all over the world, of which six are reported from India (Thrips Wiki 2014). *Bamboosiella* was first erected by Ananthkrishnan with *B. bicoloripes* from India as its type. Generally the members of this genus are either bicoloured or uniformly brown and have short maxillary stylets that are restricted to the mouth cone. The relationships of this genus with other genera of family Phlaeothripidae are well summarized by Okajima (1995a & b, 2006). Here we describe a new species of *Bamboosiella* from Karnataka state of India collected on grass clumps. A key to the seven species of this genus known from India is provided.

Bamboosiella Ananthkrishnan

Bamboosiella Ananthkrishnan 1957: 65. Type species *Bamboosiella bicoloripes* Ananthkrishnan.

Diagnosis. The genus can be distinguished from other genera of phlaeothripids by the following features: Head longer than broad or as long as broad; maxillary stylets short and V-shaped, restricted to mouth cone, maxillary bridge absent; postocular setae well developed; antennae 8-segmented, segment VIII not pedicellate; segment III with 1 or 2 and IV with 2–4 sense cones; prothoracic notopleural sutures complete; basantral plates well-developed, reduced or absent; metathoracic sternopleural sutures absent; pelta hat-shaped, fore tarsal tooth absent or present; fore wing with median constriction, with or without duplicated cilia; abdominal tergites II–VII each with two pairs of sigmoid setae; tube shorter than head; male without sternal pore plates.

Biology. The species of *Bamboosiella* are Phlaeothripinae that inhabit the leaves of Poaceae, including both grasses and bamboos, although one species from India, *B. varia*, has also been collected on *Areca* (Palmae).

Measurements (holotype male in microns). Body length 1720; head length 154, from anterior margin of eyes 148, width across eyes 145, across cheeks 151, across cheeks just before basal collar 126; eye length 72–75, width 43–45; postocular seta length 52–54; pronotum median length 130, width 208, length of major setae: aa 27–29, am 22–23, ml 27–30, pm 41–47; pa 48–54, epim 43; pelta length 76, width at base 118; antenna length 350, L(W) of antennal segments I 25(32), II 43 (25), III 51(25), IV 56(29), V 49(24), VI 43(22), VII 40(20), VIII 31(9); fore femur width 74; fore wing length 707; basal setae length S1 39–40, S2 36–39, S3 87–92; tergite IX length 70; setae S1 76–82, setae S2 30–32; tube length 124, width at base 54, at apex 27; anal setae length 147–156.

Material studied. Holotype male, **India**, Karnataka, Bidadi, Kemchanakuppe, 24.ii.2011, grass clumps, Kaomud Tyagi (Reg. No. 5294/H17); paratypes, two males with same data as holotype (Reg. No. 5295/H17 to 5296/H17), deposited in National Zoological Collection of Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata.

Etymology. This species is named in honour of Dr. K. Venkataraman, Director, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata for his continuous effort to revamp taxonomy in India.

Comments. According to the key given by Okajima (1995), this new species is related to *B. flavescens*, sharing the long mouth cone, well-developed pronotal anteromarginal setae and basantral plates, fore wing with duplicated cilia. A paratype male and female of *B. flavescens* Okajima from Thailand has been studied, and the new species can be distinguished from *flavescens* by the yellow prothorax and median part of head, all femora yellow, antennal segment I yellow with brownish shade, II–III yellow; well-developed fore tarsal tooth and tergite IX setae S1 and S2 blunt. In contrast, *flavescens* has the head, thorax and tube brown, fore and mid femora bicoloured; antennal segment III yellow and remaining segments brown; fore tarsal tooth absent, tergite IX S1 setae expanded apically.

This new species is also similar to *B. longirostris*, *B. malaya* and *B. sasa* in sharing the long mouth cone which reaches to the fema. It is distinguished from these three species by the colour of the body, anteromarginal setae, basantral plates and tergite IX S1 setae. The colour of the body of *sasa* is uniformly brown whereas bicoloured in *longirostris*, *malaya* and *venkataramani*. The anteromarginal setae are well developed in *sasa* and *venkataramani* and reduced in *longirostris* and *malaya*. Moreover, the basantral plates are well developed in *venkataramani*, but poorly developed in *sasa* and absent in *longirostris* and *malaya*. The tergite IX S1 setae are expanded in *sasa* and *longirostris*, but blunt in *malaya* and *venkataramani*.

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