



New combinations and a new generic synonym in the genus *Taeniothrips* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae)

MAJID MIRAB-BALOU^{1,3}, LAURENCE A. MOUND² & XIAO-LI TONG^{1,4}

¹Department of Entomology, College of Natural Resources & Environment, South China Agricultural University, Guangzhou 510642, China

²Australian National Insect Collection, CSIRO, PO Box 1700, Canberra, ACT 2601

³Department of Plant Protection, College of Agriculture, Ilam University, 69315–516, Iran

⁴Corresponding author. E-mail: xtong@scau.edu.cn

Abstract

Reasons are provided for considering *Javathrips* as a **new synonym** of *Taeniothrips*, resulting in the following new combinations: *Taeniothrips ciliaris* (Reyes) **comb.n.**, *Taeniothrips musae* (Zhang & Tong) **comb.n.**, and *Taeniothrips variegatus* (Reyes) **comb.n.** Also recognised here are the following nomenclatural changes: *Taeniothrips grisbrunneus* (Feng, Chou & Li) **comb.n.** (from *Megalurothrips*), and *Yaothrips pediculae* Han **comb.n.** (from *Taeniothrips*) with *Yaothrips shii* Mirab-balou *et al.* **syn.n.** *Taeniothrips musae* is redescribed and illustrated.

Key words: *Taeniothrips*, *Javathrips*, *Yaothrips*, China, Philippines

Introduction

As one of the oldest generic names in the Thysanoptera, *Taeniothrips* has had a varied taxonomic history (Mound *et al.* 2012). At one extreme was the interpretation by Stannard (1968: 358) who stated that the two genera *Taeniothrips* and *Thrips* “nearly grade into each other”, an interpretation followed by Bhatti (1969) who placed *Taeniothrips* as a synonym of *Thrips*. In contrast, O’Neill (1972), Mound *et al.* (1976), and particularly Bhatti (1978, 1995) provided a more rigorous analysis of morphological features, leading to a very different appreciation of systematic relationships. The type species of *Taeniothrips* is Eurasian in its distribution, but most of the species that are now considered to be related to that species, *picipes*, are from the Asian tropics. The objectives of this paper are to reconsider the systematic significance of *Javathrips* Bhatti, one of the small genera recognized in the work of Bhatti (1969), as the result of more recent studies on the thrips fauna in China and tropical Asia, and to indicate the resultant nomenclatural changes.

Taeniothrips Amyot & Serville

Taeniothrips Amyot & Serville, 1843: 644. Type species *Thrips primulae* Haliday, a junior synonym of *Thrips picipes* Zetterstedt, by subsequent designation of Karny.

Javathrips Bhatti, 1978: 176. Type species *Taeniothrips lagoenifer* Priesner, by original designation from three species. **syn.n.**

In addition to the type species, Bhatti placed into his new genus *Taeniothrips cyrtandrae* Priesner, and *Physopus mischocarpi* Zimmermann, despite the latter being known only from the original description. Three further species were added subsequently, *Javathrips musae* Zhang & Tong from China, *J. ciliaris* Reyes and *J. variegatus* Reyes from the Philippines. The genus was distinguished from *Taeniothrips* by Bhatti on the differences in five carefully defined characters. However, recent study of further species of *Taeniothrips* from Southeast Asia has indicated that each of these differences can be interpreted as part of a continuum in body sizes and shapes. The five differences