



A new species of the genus *Tameothrips* Bhatti (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) with four new records of thrips from India

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Abstract

A new thrips species of the grass-inhabiting *Anaphothrips* genus-group, *Tameothrips arundo* sp. n., is described from specimens collected on *Arundo donax* (Poaceae) from high altitude in Himachal Pradesh State of India. Four species of thrips in two subfamilies of family Thripidae are also reported for the first time from India, all of them well outside their known range: *Helionothrips aino* Ishida and *Panchaetothrips noxius* Priesner in the Panchaetothripinae, and *Parabaliiothrips takahashii* Priesner and *Scirtothrips kenyensis* Mound in the Thripinae. This is the first record of *Parabaliiothrips* Priesner from India. Diagnostic features and data on material studied for these species are provided.

Key words: Thripidae, *Tameothrips*, new species, new record, India

Introduction

Globally 6000 species are reported in the insect order Thysanoptera (ThripsWiki 2015), out of which 700 are known from India (Ananthakrishnan & Sen 1980; Bhatti 1990). The family Thripidae is classified into 4 subfamilies with 267 species in 111 genera from India. Bhatti (1990) referred 206 species in subfamily Thripinae, 31 in subfamily Panchaetothripinae, 19 in Dendrothripinae and 11 in Sericothripinae from India.

In the Thripinae, the *Anaphothrips* genus-group comprises 24 genera worldwide (Mound & Masumoto 2009), one of which is *Tameothrips* Bhatti. Established in 1978, this genus has, until now, included only the type species *Euthrips tamicola* Bagnall from Europe. The objective of this paper is to describe a new species in the genus *Tameothrips*, based on specimens collected from *Arundo donax* at high altitude in Himachal Pradesh State of India, and to report four Thripidae species as new to India. The new species described below thus increases the known geographic range of *Tameothrips*. The new records from India presented here, of four species in four different genera, also involve considerable range extensions, including the genus *Parabaliiothrips* that was not previously known from India. *Panchaetothrips noxius* Priesner and *Scirtothrips kenyensis* Mound were both described from Africa and have not previously been reported outside that continent. Similarly, *Helionothrips aino* Ishida and *Parabaliiothrips takahashii* Priesner were previously known only from eastern Asia; Japan and Taiwan respectively. These species are here identified by the available keys (Mound 1968; Wilson 1975; Mound & Palmer 1981; Gillespie *et al.* 2002; Mound & Stiller 2011).

Material and methods

Specimens were collected by beating method and preserved in collecting fluid (9 parts 10% alcohol + 1 part glacial acetic acid + 1 ml Triton X-100 in 1000ml of the mixture) before mounting onto glass slides in Canada balsam (Bhatti 1999). The photographs were taken through a Leica Trinocular Microscope (Leica DM-1000) and using Leica software application suite (LAS EZ 2.1.0). All specimens are deposited in the National Zoological