

On the distribution of the marine genus *Thinolestris* Grootaert & Meuffels (Diptera, Dolichopodidae) with a description of a new species from Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei

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Abstract

Four species of *Thinolestris* Grootaert & Meuffels are known so far, including *T. nigra* **sp. nov.**, which is described here from Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei. New morphological data on the genus are given. At the moment, *Thinolestris* is only known from Andaman Sea, Strait of Singapore, South China Sea, Celebes Sea, Bismarck Sea and the Coral Sea. It is not yet known from North Australia nor from the Gulf of Thailand, or farther north. *Thinolestris* adults are active on beaches with small pebbles mixed with sandy patches. It is not found on rocks, pure sandy beaches nor mangroves.

Key words: *Thinolestris*, Dolichopodidae, Aphrosylinae, marine Diptera, tropical Orient, Australasia

Introduction

Thinolestris Grootaert & Meuffels (1989) was described on the basis of two species: *T. luteola*, found on the beach of Motupore Island near Port Moresby (Papua New Guinea), and *T. obscura* from North Sulawesi (Indonesia) in the Celebes Sea. Later, Grootaert & Meuffels (2001) reported a third species from the eastern coast of the Andaman Sea (Thailand, Khao Lak). In the present paper, we describe a fourth species from Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei. It was previously listed as an undescribed species in Evenhuis & Grootaert (2002).

Thinolestris belongs to the Aphrosylinae. It is related to *Cymatopus* Kertész, 1901 and *Thambemyia* Oldroyd, 1956 (= *Conchopus* Takagi, 1965), the other Aphrosylinae