



Species of the genus *Thrips* (Thysanoptera) from Peninsular Malaysia, with a checklist of recorded Thripidae

MOUND, L.A.¹ & AZIDAH, A.A.²

¹Honorary Research Fellow, CSIRO Entomology, Canberra, ACT 2601, Australia. E-mail laurence.mound@csiro.au

²Institute of Biological Sciences, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. E-mail: azie@um.edu.my

Abstract

An illustrated key is provided to 23 species of the genus *Thrips* from Peninsular Malaysia, including one new species and seven species not previously recorded from this country. Most of the specimens came from a recent survey of crop plants, and this survey produced several interesting species of other genera of Thripidae. The invasive pest species, *Frankliniella occidentalis* and *Frankliniella intonsa*, were abundant in highland areas, and an African species not previously known from Asia, *Ceratothripoides brunneus*, was found commonly particularly in lowland areas. A checklist is provided of 78 species of Thripidae recorded from Peninsular Malaysia.

Key words: *Thrips*, Thripinae, new species, *Ceratothripoides*

Introduction

Southeastern Asia is one of the most biologically diverse parts of the world, and agricultural production in this area is affected by a wide diversity of pest insects. Despite this, identification literature and general overviews of particular insect groups are surprisingly absent from this region, and this is particularly true of the order Thysanoptera, the thrips. Only for the Philippines is there a Thysanoptera faunal account, with keys to 190 species in 90 genera (Reyes, 1994). For Thailand there are keys in the Thai language to about 40 common species of the suborder Terebrantia, including 12 species of the genus *Thrips* (Poonchaisri, 2001). For Japan, there is a fully illustrated account of the species and genera in the suborder Tubulifera (Okajima, 2006), and identification keys are available for the Thysanoptera fauna of India (Ananthakrishnan and Sen, 1980). For Indonesia, there is a list of the thrips species recorded from each of the main islands (zur Strassen, 1994), but for the other countries of South East Asia, including Malaysia, there are neither regional lists nor texts that would help students and agricultural entomologists to start to identify the common or pest thrips species.

The objective of the present paper is to provide a basis for identifying members of the genus *Thrips* in Malaysia, in the hope of stimulating local studies on the rich Thysanoptera fauna of this region. The project developed around a survey of thrips associated with various crops in Peninsular Malaysia, including samples taken from the different faunas that exist in the lowland and highland areas of this country. In addition to samples taken at the Institute of Biological Sciences and Rimba Ilmu at the University of Malaya (UM), Kuala Lumpur, the sampling sites were as follows: SELANGOR [Serdang (Federated Experimental Station; MARDI; University Putra Malaysia; Rice Industry Centre); Taman Serdang Raya, Seri Kembangan; Parit 5, Sekinchan; Taman Agrotek, Batang Berjuntai]; PAHANG [Cameron Highlands (MARDI and Taman Sedia, Tanah Rata; Brinchang; Kampong Raja)]; KELANTAN [Loajing, Gua Musang]; TERENGGANU [MARDI, Jerangau]; PERAK [Kampung Ijok, Kuala Kurau].

The published checklist of thrips from Indonesia records just over 125 species of Thripidae, whereas only