



The genus *Terthrothrips* Karny (Thysanoptera: Phlaeothripidae) from China with one new species

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Abstract

The Phlaeothripinae genus *Terthrothrips* is recorded from China for the first time, with a key to the three species here recorded, including one new species, *T. palmatus*. This differs from the known species of the genus by the pronotal anteromarginal setae being well developed and broadly expanded at the apex. New distribution information is provided for *T. apterus* Kudô and *T. parvus* Okajima, described originally from Japan.

Key words: litter thrips, Phlaeothripidae, *Terthrothrips*, new species, China

Introduction

This paper arises from ecological and faunistic studies on the Thysanoptera living in leaf litter of subtropical and tropical southern China. The Phlaeothripidae that breed in this habitat probably feed on fungal hyphae (Mound, 1977), and many specimens have been collected during these studies. Amongst these, three distinct species have been distinguished of the genus *Terthrothrips* Karny, a genus of Phlaeothripidae known mainly from the tropics of the New World (Hood, 1957; Mound, 1976, 1977). The purpose of this paper is to record this genus from China for the first time, to describe one of these species as new to science, and to provide an illustrated key to distinguish the three species. The specimens were mounted onto slides in Canada balsam, and illustrations were made with the help of a camera lucida. All specimens are deposited in the Insect Collection, Department of Entomology, South China Agricultural University (SCAU).

Terthrothrips Karny

Terthrothrips Karny, 1925: 78.

The genus *Terthrothrips* is a member of the *Glyptothrips* lineage (Okajima, 2006), an informal assemblage of taxa within the Phlaeothripinae that has previously been referred to as a weakly defined tribe Glyptothripini (Priesner, 1961; Mound, 1977). The genus was established by Karny for a single species from Brazil, *Phlaeothrips sanguinolentus* Bergroth. Currently 25 species are listed in the genus (Mound, 2010), all from the New World apart from three that are described from Japan (Kudô, 1978; Okajima & Urushihara, 1992; Okajima, 2006). No member of the genus has been reported previously from China.

Diagnosis. Polymorphic species with macropterous, micropterous and apterous adults. Head longer than wide, dorsal surface strongly or weakly sculptured, produced in front of eyes; eyes usually large; postocular setae well-developed with apex expanded; antennae long and slender, maxillary stylets short, usually wide apart and V-shaped in head; pronotal anteromarginal (am) and anteroangular (aa) setae reduced or well developed, rarely aa and am setae both greatly reduced; fore tarsal tooth present in both sexes; fore wing if developed, almost parallel sided, without duplicated cilia (Karny, 1925; Okajima, 2006).