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The genus *Ctenothrips* from India (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) with description of one new species and one new record

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Abstract

Ctenothrips barapatharensis sp.n. is described from specimens collected on ferns from Himachal Pradesh state of India. This is the only species in this genus having dark thickenings attached to fore ocellus. *Ctenothrips niger* Kudô is newly recorded from India, and the brachypterous form is described for the first time. A key to the three species of *Ctenothrips* from India is provided.

Key words: Thripidae, *Ctenothrips*, *C. barapatharensis*, *C. niger*, new species, new record, brachypterous, key, India

Introduction

The Thripinae is the largest of the four subfamilies of Thripidae in the Order Thysanoptera. It comprises 1732 species in 248 genera across the globe (Thrips Wiki 2014), of which 206 species in 82 genera are recorded from India (Bhatti 1990). The thripine genus *Ctenothrips* was described for a single species from North America, but now includes 13 species from North America, Europe and Asia (Thrips Wiki 2014). Most of these species have been found only in alpine or high altitude regions, and a key to world species of the genus is available (Xie et al. 2011).

The only species in the genus from India, *C. smilax* Bhatti, was described from high altitude areas of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir states. Here we describe a new species of *Ctenothrips* collected from ferns at high altitude in Himachal Pradesh, and also report the brachypterous form of *C. niger* Kudô, a species here newly recorded from India. A key to the three species of *Ctenothrips* from India is provided, based partly on original descriptions. Photographs were taken through a Leica Microscope Model DM-1000 using the Leica software application suite (LAS EZ).

Ctenothrips Franklin

Ctenothrips Franklin 1907: 247. Type species *Ctenothrips bridwelli* Franklin.

This genus can be distinguished from other genera of Thripinae by the long abdominal segment X with almost parallel margins and the polygonal reticulation on the metanotum and abdominal tergites and sternites.

Diagnosis. Both sexes macropterous or brachypterous. Head longer than broad or as long as broad with 2 or 3 pairs of ocellar setae; maxillary palp 3-segmented; antennae 8-segmented, segment I without dorsal apical setae; III and IV each with forked sense cones; pronotum with two pairs of posteroangular setae, basantra weakly chitinised or absent, ferna entire, undivided; mesosternum with or without spinula, metasternum without spinula; fore wing long and narrow, first and second veins with row of setae; surface of abdominal tergites and sternites with polygonal reticulation; sternites without discal setae, laterotergites with or without discal setae; abdominal tergite VIII posterior margin with complete comb of microtrichia; tergite X elongate, almost parallel-sided, with a complete ventral longitudinal split.

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