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***Bathrips* in China (Thysanoptera: Thripidae), with a new record and new synonym**

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Bathrips Bhatti (1962) currently includes three species, all from the Oriental region. The systematic relationships of this genus remain equivocal. Mound & Masumoto (2004) pointed out the similarity in general appearance of the species to those of *Trichromothrips*, but Masumoto & Okajima (2005) did not include *Bathrips* in the *Trichromothrips* genus-group. The species of *Bathrips* lack the dorso-apical setae on the first antennal segment that characterize the *Trichromothrips* group, and tergite IX of males bears a median pair of short and stout setae (Masumoto & Okajima 2005). *Bathrips* was distinguished originally from *Taeniothrips* on the basis of a different fore wing chaetotaxy, but the complete absence of a comb on tergite VIII suggests that these two are not related.

The three species in this genus are all recorded from China (Zhang 1981; Wang 2002; Mirab-balou *et al.* 2011). As a result of examining specimens from different parts of China, we here recognise *B. ipomoeae* (Zhang) as a junior synonym of *B. melanicornis* (Shumsher), and record *B. jasmineae* (Ananthakrishnan) from mainland China for the first time. The specimens examined are deposited in the Insect Collection of Department of Entomology, South China Agricultural University, Guangzhou (SCAU).

***Bathrips melanicornis* (Shumsher)**

Taeniothrips melanicornis Shumsher, 1946: 179.

Taeniothrips ipomoeae Zhang, 1981: 324 **syn.n.**

Bathrips ipomoeae (Zhang); Zhang & Tong, 1993 (p. 419 footnote by Bhatti)

Female. Female macroptera. Body yellow with extensive light brown markings—in ocellar triangle, sub-medially on pronotum and metanotum, medially on tergites II–VIII; antennae dark brown; legs yellow to yellowish brown; fore wings brown; body setae dark. Antennae 8-segmented; antennal segment I without paired dorso-apical setae; segments III & IV each with forked sense cone; III–VI covered with rows of microtrichia dorsally and ventrally. Head wider than long, with 2 pairs of ocellar setae, pair III long and situated between posterior ocelli; postocular setae all small. Maxillary palp 3-segmented. Pronotum with 2 pairs of long posteroangular setae, and 2 pairs of posteromarginal setae. Mesonotum without pair of anteromarginal campaniform sensilla. Metanotum weakly reticulate medially, median setae not at anterior margin; campaniform sensilla absent. Mesofurca with spinula, metafurca without spinula. Fore wing first vein with 3 setae on distal half, second vein with 4 setae. Abdominal tergites with sculpture area before setae pair S2, smooth medially; tergite VIII without posteromarginal comb; IX without anterior pair of CPS; tergite X without dorsal split. Abdominal sternites with 3 pairs of marginal setae, median setae on VII in front of margin.

Male. Male macroptera. Similar to female but smaller, antennal segments I & II yellow; abdominal tergite IX with 2 stout thorn-like setae medially; abdominal sternite VII with very small pore plate medially.

Five males of this species were examined by L.A. Mound. He informed us of the following variation in the pore plate on sternite VII: neatly oval in one male from Kuala Lumpur, also one from Chiang Mai, Thailand; irregularly oval in one from Bali; from Queensland, Australia, one male with an oval pore plate, but a second with no pore plate.

Specimens examined: CHINA: Guangdong Province: holotype female and paratype male of *ipomoeae*, Guangzhou, Shipai, from *Ipomoea batatas*, 30.x.1974, Zhang Wei-qiu. Paratypes of *ipomoeae*: Boluo, Huizhou, 2 female, 1 male from *I. batatas*, 12.x.1975, same locality, 1 female from *Calopogonium mucunoides*, 2.x.1975; Hainan