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**A revision of and key to the world species of *Mycterothrips* Trybom  
(Thysanoptera, Thripidae)**

MASAMI MASUMOTO AND SHÛJI OKAJIMA



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## Abstract

The genus *Mycterothrips* Trybom is reviewed. Twenty-seven species are recognized in the genus, of which six species are newly described mainly from Australia and Japan: *M. desleyae* sp. n. (Australia); *M. egonoki* sp. n. (Japan); *M. fasciatus* sp. n. (Japan, West Malaysia); *M. grandis* sp. n. (Japan); *M. shihoae* sp. n. (Japan); *M. yamagishii* sp. n. (Japan). Five species-groups are recognized in this genus based on character states of males. *M. ravidus* Wang from Taiwan is treated as a synonym of the Indian species, *M. nilgiriensis* (Ananthakrishnan), and it is newly recorded from Australia and Nepal. Another Indian species, *M. ricini* (Shumsher Singh), is newly recorded from Japan. The type species of the genus from South Africa, *M. laticauda* Trybom, is newly recorded from Tchad. A key to world species is provided.

**Key words:** Thysanoptera, Thripidae, *Mycterothrips* genus-group, Japan, Australia

## Introduction

Jacot-Guillarmod (1974) listed 18 species in the genus *Mycterothrips* Trybom, although subsequently three species were moved to *Diarthrothrips* Williams (Bhatti & Ananthakrishnan, 1978), *Tusothrips* Bhatti (Bhatti, 1978a) and *Tenothrips* Bhatti (Bhatti 1990a). Moreover, two species were transferred into *Mycterothrips* from *Taeniothrips* Amyot & Serville (Bhatti, 1978b, 1990b) and one species from *Pseudoscirtothrips* Bournier (Bhatti, 1990b) from Angola, and four additional species were described from Japan and Taiwan (Masumoto & Okajima, 1998; Wang, 1999). Currently, 24 species are known in the world, although none had previously been recorded from Australia and Central to South America. However, two females collected from New South Wales and Queensland in Australia are here recognized as an Indian species, *M. nilgiriensis*, and one new species is described from Queensland. Lone and Bhagat (1991) reported "*M. indicus*" as a new species from India, but this has never been described until now, although they stated "the detailed descriptions of these will be published separately".

The members of this genus are small to relatively large-sized leaf-feeding thrips, and some of them are associated with agricultural crops, such as *M. glycines* in Japan and *M. setiventris* in India. Adults have been collected not only from living leaves, but also from various habitats such as grass, flowers, dead leaves, dead branches and leaf litter. Some species exhibit distinct sexual dimorphism of the antennal segments. The antennal segment VI of males is often much longer than that of females.

Mound & Palmer (1981) recognized six genus-groups in the subfamily Thripinae as a result of assessing both plesiomorphic and apomorphic character states, though some of