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Remarkable sexually dimorphic *Aroidothrips longistylus* newly recorded from China (Thysanoptera: Thripidae)

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Sexual dimorphism is a phenotypic differentiation between males and females of the same species. Thrips display a wide variety of sexual dimorphism between taxa including size, ornamentation and coloration (Crespi 1986, Mound 2005, Tyagi *et al.* 2008). During recent surveys on the thrips fauna in subtropical China, *Aroidothrips longistylus* Ananthakrishnan, an interesting and little known sexually dimorphic species, was found. This discovery greatly extends the geographic distribution of this species that has been known only from South India (Tyagi *et al.* 2008).

Aroidothrips longistylus Ananthakrishnan, 1960

(Figs 1–6)

Female. Macroptera (Fig. 2). Body yellow except for pronotum with a pair of longitudinal brown patches sub-medially, meso- and metanota light brown, fore wings brown and abdominal terga II–VIII each with a brown marking medially but yellow laterally; antennae dark brown but III light brown in apical 1/3 and IV light brown in apical half; head yellowish brown; all legs yellow. Antennae 8-segmented (Fig 4); segment I with a pair of dorso-apical setae, III shorter than IV, widest medially and tapering to apex, IV distinctly narrowed in neck-like distal third; III and IV with long forked sense cones reaching up to 1/3 the length of the next segment, V and VI with 3 simple sense cones and the dorsal one in VI longest, reaching beyond segment VIII; III–VI covered with rows of microtrichia in basal half; VIII approximately twice as long as VII. Head with transverse anastomosed striae posteriorly; three pairs of ocellar setae present, pair I situated between bases of antennae, pair II close to anterior ocellus near margin of ocellar triangle, pair III longest and placed between anterior margin of posterior ocelli; postocular setae uniserial and short. Maxillary palp 3-segmented. Pronotum with pair of long anteromarginal setae, about 2.5 times as long as anteroangular setae; two pairs of posteroangular setae and one pair of long posteromarginal setae. Meso- and metanotum without CPS; mesonotum weakly sculpture medially; metascutum almost smooth medially but with longitudinal lines laterally and weak transversely reticulate at anterior and posterior. Meso- and metafurca with spinula (Fig. 5). Tarsi 2-segmented. Fore wing first vein with 6 setae in basal half and 2 setae near apex, second vein with 10 setae (Fig 6). Abdominal terga with transverse sculpture lines laterally but smooth between setae pair S2; tergite VIII without posteromarginal comb, IX with one pair of CPS on posterior half, X without dorsal split. Abdominal sterna without discal setae, sternum II with two pairs of marginal setae, sterna III–VII each with three pairs of marginal setae; all terga and sterna without craspedum.

Male. Macroptera (Fig 1). Most character states similar to female. Body uniformly brown including wings and abdomen. Antennae 6-segmented (Fig 3); segments III and IV each with an extremely elongate brown forked sense cone at least 10 times as long as their segment; segment V with three short transparent simple sense cones and one extremely elongate brown simple sense cone; segment VI with two extremely elongate brown sense cones and one short transparent simple sense cone apically; microtrichial rows absent on all antennal segments. Abdominal sterna without pore plate.

Specimens examined. CHINA, Guizhou, Maolan National Nature Reserve, Weng'ang (25°12'N, 107°56'E), 1 male and 1 female collected from *Mosla* sp. (Lamiaceae) beside rice paddy, 3 males from grass (Poaceae), 21.vii.2015, Tong Xiaoli.

Comments. *Aroidothrips* is a monobasic genus with the type species based on two females (Ananthakrishnan 1960). The only other report is of a small population including both sexes on *Oryza sativa* in Karnataka, India (Tyagi *et al.* 2008). At first glance, the female is very similar to *Bathrips melanicornis* (Shumsher) in appearance and color pattern, whereas the male is uniformly brown with reddish violet or lilac pigment (before treatment with NaOH). The male