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## A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *ERYNGYOTHRIPS* (THYSANOPTERA, THIRIPIDAE) FROM IRAN

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**A New Species of the Genus *Eryngyothrips* (Thysanoptera, Thripidae) from Iran.** Mirab-balou, M., Bazgir, M., Mahmoodi, M. — A new thrips species, *Eryngyothrips veisii* sp. n. (Thripidae, Thripinae) is described and illustrated based on individual specimens collected from Choqasabz Forest Park (Ilam Province), western Iran. This new species is most similar to *E. discolor* Bhatti, but is readily distinguished from the latter by divided ferna, prothorax color yellowish brown, absence of metanotal campaniform sensilla, and the longest postocular setae pair III.

Key words: Forest Park, *Eryngyothrips veisii* sp. n., soil mesofauna, Iran.

**Новый вид рода *Eryngyothrips* (Thysanoptera, Thripidae) из Ирана.** Мираб-Балу М., Базгир М., Махмуди М. — Иллюстрированное описание *Eryngyothrips veisii* sp. n. (Thripidae, Thripinae) по экземплярам из лесного парка Чокасабз (провинция Илам) на западе Ирана. Этот новый вид наиболее близок к *E. discolor* Bhatti, но легко отличается от последнего разделенными фернумами, желтовато-коричневый окраской переднегруди, отсутствием метанотальных колоколовидных сенсилл и длинной III парой щетинок, расположенных позади глаза.

Ключевые слова: лесной парк, *Eryngyothrips veisii* sp. n., мезофауна почвы, Иран.

### Introduction

The subfamily Thripinae includes about 1600 species in 230 genera worldwide (ThripsWiki, 2015); of these, 119 species in 37 genera were recorded from Iran (Mirab-balou, 2013), and a key to these thripine genera in Iran is available in Mirab-balou et al. (2013). Recently, the genus *Eryngyothrips* Bhatti was recorded for fauna of Iran by Minaei et al. (2014). Five species are now included in the genus *Eryngyothrips* Bhatti: *E. banhashemii* Minaei et al. from Iran, *E. discolor* Bhatti from Turkey, *E. eryngii* (Priesner) from Israel, *E. ferulae* (Priesner) from Canary Islands, and *E. nickelae* (zur Strassen) from Morocco (the latter three species originally described in the genus *Oxythrips*). The members of this genus are easily distinguished by the presence of a tergal and sternal craspedum, the median pair of mesonotal setae inserted at the same level as the submedian setae, and a single pair of long posteroangular setae on pronotum (Bhatti, 1979; zur Strassen, 2003).

Recently, the fauna of Thysanoptera in Choqasabz Forest Park (Ilam Province) was studied by Mirab-balou et al. (2014) and in total, 10 species from four different genera were collected and identified. During our study on soil mesofauna in Choqa-Sabz Forest Park, we found individual specimens of previously unknown species of thrips, described below as *Eryngyothrips veisii* sp. n.

### Materials and methods

During our study on forest tree species effect on population of soil mesofauna in Ilam township (western Iran), soil samples collected under oak trees and then transferred to laboratory, and arthropods were extracted by using Berlese funnel. Finally, individual specimens of thrips were found, and specimens prepared onto slides using the method of Mirab-balou and Chen (2010). Type specimens are deposited in the collection of Department of Plant Protection, College of Agriculture, Ilam University, Iran (ILAMU), and in the Insect Collection of Department of Entomology, South China Agricultural University, Guangzhou, China (SCAU).

*Eryngyothrips veisii* Mirab-balou, sp. n. (fig. 1–7)

Material examined. Holotype ♀ (ILAMU): **Iran**: Ilam Province, Choqasabz Forest Park, from soil under Oak trees, 20.12.2014 (H. Veisi) (ILAMU). Paratypes: **Iran**: 1♀ collected with holotype (ILAMU); 1 ♀, same data, but 7.05.2015 (SCAU).

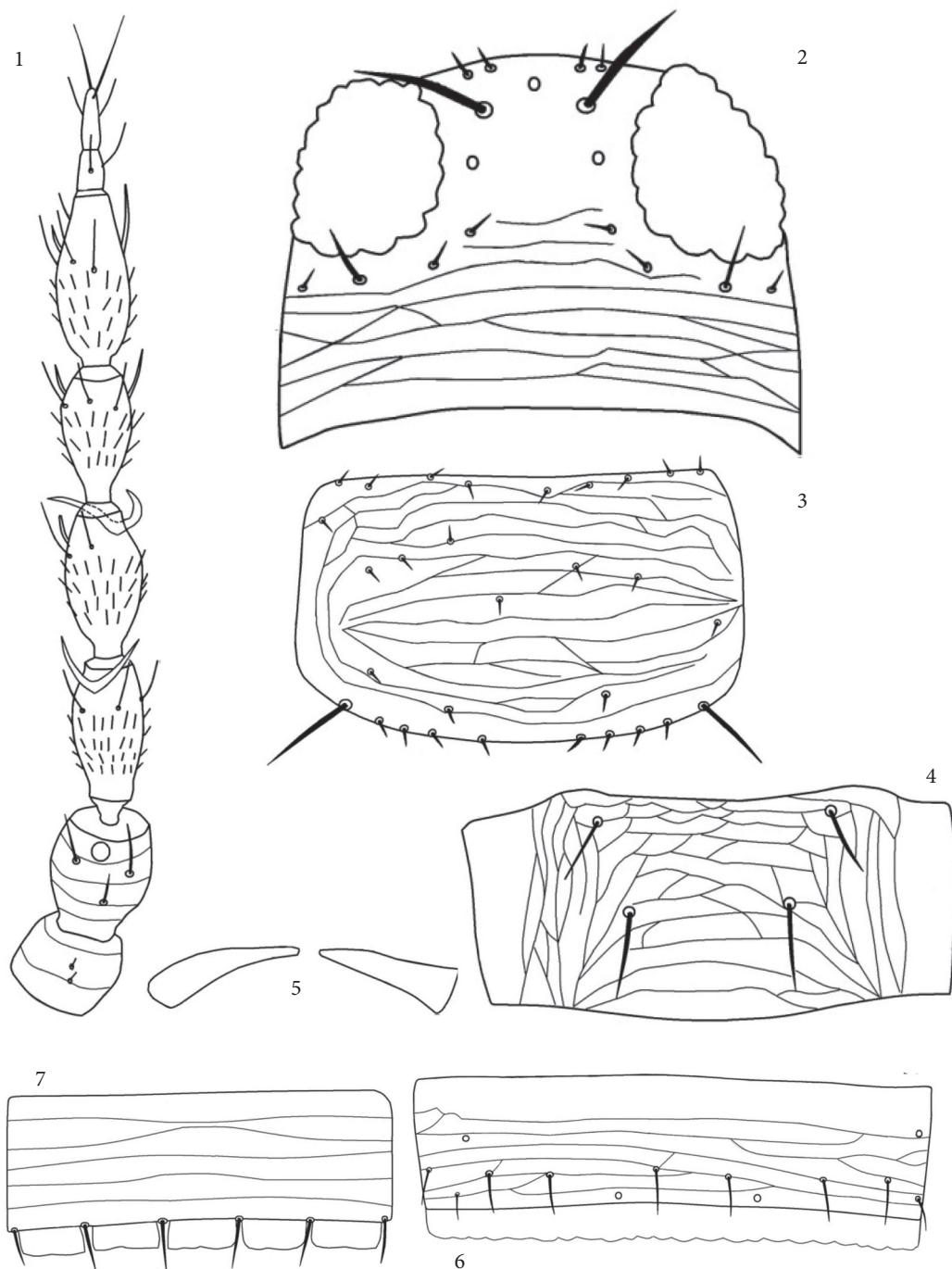


Fig. 1–7. *Eryngyothrips veisii* sp. n.: 1 — antenna; 2 — head; 3 — pronotum; 4 — metascutum; 5 — ferna; 6 — abdominal tergite VI; 7 — abdominal sternite IV.

**Description.** Female brachypterous. Body dark brown except prothorax yellowish brown, meso- and metathorax yellow, fore tarsi pale yellow, and the base of antennal segments III and IV pale brown. Antennal segments V and VI darker than other segments, like as abdominal segments. Wings including scale are pale. All setae dark brown.

Head wider than length (fig. 2); basal half with transverse reticulations; compound eyes with 6 pigmented facets; three small ocelli present, three pairs of ocellar setae present; ocellar setae pair III longest and situated on anterior margins of ocellar triangle; 4 pairs of postocular setae present, pair III longest (fig. 2). Mouth cone short, reaching to fore coxae. Maxillary palps 3-segmented. Antennae 8-segmented, with forked sense cone on antennal segments III and IV, segment VI pedicellate; segments III–VI with microtrichia on both dorsal and ventral view (fig. 1). Pronotum strongly transverse, surface sculptured with widely spaced transverse striae, irregular at middle; with one long seta on each posterior angles; posterior margin with four pairs of setae (fig. 3); pronotum with at least 12–14 short discal setae. Ferna divided medially (fig. 5). Mesonotum transverse, with a pair of campaniform sensilla at anterior margin; metascutum irregularly reticulate, with median setae far from anterior margin (at middle of sclerite), metanotal campaniform sensilla absent (fig. 4); mesosternum with spinula, metasternum without spinula. Tarsi 2-segmented. Abdominal tergites I–VIII with transverse sculpture medially (fig. 6), without ctenidia laterally; posteromarginal craspeda present on tergites II–VIII (fig. 6); abdominal tergites I–VIII with a pair of campaniform sensilla on posterior margin, median setae wider apart than their length; tergite VIII without comb on posterior margin, tergite IX without sculpture lines, with two pairs of campaniform sensilla; tergite X with complete median split. Setae S6 on tergites II–VII inserted on pleurotergite. Abdominal sternites without discal setae (except sternite II with one discal seta); sternite II with 2 pairs, III–VII with 3 pairs of marginal setae; sternites II–VII with broad craspedum on posterior margin (fig. 7). Ovipositor well developed.

Measurements (holotype in microns). Body distended length 1200. Head length (width) 87 (134). Pronotum length (width) 96 (175); posteroangular setae 40. Fore wing length (median width) 90 (50). Abdominal tergite IX S1 setae 90, S2 setae 100. Antennal segments I–VIII length (width) I 17 (26), II 30 (24), III 42 (18), IV 40 (19), V 32 (19), VI 43 (18), VII 9 (6), and VIII 14 (4).

**Male.** Unknown.

**Remarks.** Ferna are attached (undivided) in *Eryngyothrips* species, except in this new species and *E. nickelae* (zur Strassen, 2003), but according to the key by zur Strassen (2003: 241), the new species is readily distinguished from *E. nickelae* by the color of body (in *E. nickelae* body color dark brown versus bicolored in *E. veisii* sp. n.) and posteroangular setae (in *E. nickelae* this is pale versus dark in *E. veisii* sp. n.), and sternites III–VII without discal setae (vs. with many discal setae in *nickelae*). According to color of body, this new species is most similar to *E. discolor* Bhatti, but is readily distinguished from the latter by divided ferna, prothorax color yellowish brown, absence of metanotal campaniform sensilla, and the longest postocular setae pair III.

Recently, *E. banhashemii* was described from Iran (Minaeii et al., 2014), but this new species can be distinguished from latter by divided ferna, the color of legs, and no campaniform sensilla on metanotum.

**Etymology.** This species is named after its collector, Mr. Hamid Veisi.

**Distribution.** Iran, Ilam province.

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