

## BOOK REVIEW

MOUND L.A. & KIBBY G.: THYSANOPTERA. AN IDENTIFICATION GUIDE. 2nd ed. CAB International, Wallingford, New York, 1998, vi + 70 pp. Spiral bound. ISBN 0-85199-211-0. Price GBP 19.95.

This is an instructive identification book designed for students from many different countries taking part in training courses organized by CAB International. The first few pages contain, after an introduction, short pieces on the biology of thrips, and informative notes about their dispersal, feeding damage and virus transmission. Further attention is given to collecting techniques, and especially to slide preparation for thrips identification, archiving and taxonomic research. Characters used in the determination of species are briefly discussed. The book is ring-bound and can be folded over between chosen pages and laid next to the microscope which facilitates comparison between the figures and the characters of the thrips being studied.

The next, most voluminous part contains a pictorial key for the identification of 70 thrips genera and 112 noxious species. Most figures are very good, especially those by Jenny Palmer,

which are excellent. Some figures are only schematic but are still instructive, while few are wrong, e.g., the figure of *Taeniothrips* antenna (p. 32, step 45) is far from reality. The text is very carefully prepared, but nevertheless a few mistakes have infiltrated in it (*Melanthrips* instead of *Melanothrips*, p. 12, step 6; there is no escape from the steps 49-50-49, p. 34; sternopleural instead of ternopleural, p. 67).

The last part of this book consists of short descriptions of all 70 genera with some very useful comments on their ecology, bionomics, number of species and their distribution. The final pages contain a recent bibliography of the Thysanoptera, a glossary, a host plant index and a final index of the genera and species discussed in the book.

This is a very useful publication, not only for applied entomologists and crop protection specialists, but also for all those who try to identify Thysanoptera or study this very important insect order. This book should be at hand in every entomological library.

J. Pelikán