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# Molecular phylogeny reveals genital convergences and reversals in the barklouse genus *Trichadenotecnum* (Insecta: Psocodea: 'Psocoptera': Psocidae)



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#### ABSTRACT

Trichadenotecnum is one of the most diverse genera among the non-parasitic members of Psocodea (Insecta: "Psocoptera"). The genus shows a world-wide distribution (excluding the Australian Region, where only one introduced species is known) with its center of diversity in southern to eastern Asia. Several species groups had been proposed for this large genus based on morphology, but their validity and phylogenetic relationships are still unclear because of great morphological diversity in the genitalia, systematically the most relevant character. In this study, we estimated the molecular phylogeny of the Old World species of Trichadenotecnum based on extensive taxon sampling. As a result, the monophyly of morphology-based species groups was very strongly supported in most cases. However, two groups were recovered as non-monophyletic, which had been inadequately defined on the basis of plesiomorphies or convergences of genital characters. First, the monophyly of the sexpunctatum group was not supported because the medium group was found to be embedded within this group. The simpler genitalia observed in the medium group were considered to be derived from the more complicated genitalia present in the sexpunctatum group. Second, the monophyly of the majus group was not supported for two reasons: (1) It was divided into two distant clades which initially had been united on the basis of convergent similarities of the male genitalia. (2) Two species groups were revealed to be embedded within the main clade of the majus group; the initial separation of these groups had been based on reversals to the ancestral genital condition.

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#### 1. Introduction

The barklouse genus *Trichadenotecnum* Enderlein, 1909 is one of the largest genera among the free-living members of the order Psocodea (formerly "Psocoptera"; Yoshizawa and Johnson, 2006). The genus consists of more than 200 species distributed in all zoogeographical regions (summarized in Lienhard and Smithers, 2002; Lienhard, 2011, 2015; Yoshizawa and Lienhard, 2015) except for the Australian Region, where only one introduced species is known (Yoshizawa and Smithers, 2006). Several additional species have been distinguished but are not yet described; some of them are included in the present analyses (see Table 1).

The species of *Trichadenotecnum* are superficially very similar to each other; without examining the genital characters, species

identification is difficult even between rather distantly related species. Nevertheless, the species of *Trichadenotecnum* and even the genus itself were once diagnosed only by superficial similarities in forewing markings and venation, which caused much taxonomic confusion (e.g., Roesler, 1943, 1944; Thornton, 1961; New, 1978; Yoshizawa, 1998; Yoshizawa and Smithers, 2006). Recently, the genus was redefined by a combination of apomorphies including male and female genital characters (Yoshizawa, 2001, 2003). Several species groups have been proposed within the genus based mainly on male and female genital structures (Yoshizawa, 2001, 2003; Yoshizawa and Lienhard, 2004, 2015; Yoshizawa et al., 2007, 2008, 2014).

Genitalia are the most widely used morphological characters in insect systematics, from species diagnoses (e.g., Tuxen, 1970) to lower- or higher-level phylogenetic studies (e.g., Yoshizawa and Johnson, 2006; Song and Bucheli, 2010). In contrast, it is sometimes argued that the genitalia may not contain useful phylogenetic information because of the extremely rapid evolutionary rates of

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the genital structures (Arnqvist and Rowe, 2002; Eberhard, 2004). In the case of *Trichadenotecnum*, some species groups defined by genital structures were tentatively supported by molecular phylogenies (Yoshizawa, 2004). However, taxon sampling for these analyses was very limited. Recent progress in the taxonomic study of the Old World species of *Trichadenotecnum* (summarized in Lienhard and Smithers, 2002; Lienhard, 2011, 2015; Yoshizawa and Lienhard, 2015) has revealed its great diversity in the Oriental to eastern Palearctic regions. Many new species have been described, which have been either assigned to previously defined species groups or to some newly proposed species groups based on morphological characters (Yoshizawa and Lienhard, 2004,

2015; Yoshizawa et al., 2007, 2014). Therefore, molecular-based tests for the morphologically established taxonomic system are highly desirable.

In this paper, we estimate the molecular phylogeny of the Old World species of *Trichadenotecnum* based on extensive taxon sampling. On the basis of the resulting tree, we examine the morphological evolution of the male genital structures in the genus. The molecular phylogeny also provides new insights for intrageneric taxonomy, but here we focus only on phylogeny and morphological evolution; taxonomic rearrangements will be subsequently proposed along with descriptive taxonomic studies (e.g., Yoshizawa and Lienhard, 2015).

**Table 1**Taxa included in this study; – indicates missing data.

| Sample  | Locality       | Voucher ID     | 18S                  | Histone 3            | 12S                  | 16S                  | COI                  |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Outgroups (Psocidae excl. Trichadeno                          | •              |                |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Kaindipsocus splendidus                                       | Vietnam        | KY283          | EF662270             | EF662149             | EF662236             | EF662109             | EF662072             |
| Clematostigma sp.KY418  | Australia      | KY418          | JF820388             | JF820387             | JF820377             | JF820380             | -                    |
| Amphigerontia jezoensis                                       | Japan          | KY213          | AY630546             | EF662143             | EF662233             | EF662104             | EF662067             |
| Blaste sp.KY293   | USA            | KY293          | EF662267             | EF662146             | EF662235             | EF662107             | EF662070             |
| Blastopsocus lithinus   | USA            | 8.31.2001.11   | AY630548             | EF662147             | AY275313             | AY275363             | AY275288             |
| Longivalvus nubilus   | Japan          | KY218          | AY630559             | EF662152             | AY139905             | AY139952             | EF662075             |
| Cerastipsocus trifasciatus                                    | USA            | KY301          | EF662271             | EF662150             | EF662237             | EF662110             | EF662073             |
| Podopterocus kakisayap  | Malaysia       | KY240          | AY630557             | -                    | EF662239             | EF662112             | EF662076             |
| Atrichadenotecnum quadripunctatum                             | Japan          | KY164          | AY630551             | EF662157             | AY374622             | AY374572             | AY374555             |
| Hyalopsocus floridanus  | USA            | KY287          | EF662277             | EF662160             | EF662246             | EF662119             | EF662082             |
| Atropsocus atratus  | USA            | KY284          | EF662275             | EF662158             | EF662244             | EF662117             | EF662080             |
| Psocus bipunctatus  | Japan          | KY225          | AY630555             | EF662162             | EF662248             | EF662121             | EF662084             |
| Psocus crosbyi  | USA            | KY316          | EF662279             | EF662163             | EF662219             | EF662122             | EF662085             |
| Steleops sp.KY309   | USA            | KY309          | EF662291             | EF662176             | EF662259             | EF662133             | EF662095             |
| Loensia variegata   | France         | KY179          | AY630549             | EF662170             | AY139906             | AY139953             | AY374556             |
| Loensia conspersa   | USA            | KY292          | EF662285             | EF662171             | EF662254             | EF662128             | EF662090             |
| Copostigma sp.KY288   | Fiji           | KY288          | EF662282             | EF662166             | EF662251             | EF662125             | EF662089             |
| Ptycta johnsoni   | Japan          | KY235          | AY630553             | EF662175             | AY139907             | AY139954             | EF662093             |
| Symbiopsocus hastatus   | Japan          | KY180          | AY630552             | EF662178             | AY374625             | AY374575             | AY374559             |
| Atlantopsocus personatus                                      | Italy          | KY294          | EF662280             | EF662164             | EF662250             | EF662123             |                      |
| Oreopsocus buholzeri  | Israel         | KY291          | EF662286             | EF662172             | EF662255             | EF662129             | _                    |
| Indiopsocus bisignatus  | USA            | KY289          | EF662283             | EF662167             | EF662252             | EF662126             | EF662087             |
| Indiopsocus sp.KY305  | USA            | KY305          | EF662284             | EF662168             | EF662253             | EF662127             | EF662088             |
| Ingroups  |                |                |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Trichadenotecnum circularoides                                | Australia      | KY178          | EF662294-5           | EF662180             | AY374623             | AY374573             | AY374557             |
| Trichadenotecnum tigrinum Male                                | Thailand       | KY436          | LC052029             | LC052125             | LC051914             | LC051971             | M1374337             |
| Trichadenotecnum tigrinum Female                              | Thailand       | KY474          | LC052023             | LC052126             | LC051914             | LC051971             | LC052088             |
| Trichadenotecnum sabahense                                    | Sabah          | KY461          | LC052030             | LC052127             | LC051916             | LC051972             | LC052089             |
| Trichadenotecnum sp.Nepal10                                   | Nepal          | KY378          | LC052031             | LC052127             | LC051917             | LC051973             | LC052090             |
| Trichadenotechum sp.Nepurro<br>Trichadenotecnum sp.Sabah2     | Sabah          | KY462          | LC052032             | LC052128             | LC051917<br>LC051918 | LC051974<br>LC051975 | -                    |
| Trichadenotechum sp.Tiger6                                    | Thailand       | KY438          | LC052033             | LC052129             | LC051918             | LC051975             | _                    |
| Trichadenotechum sp.11gero<br>Trichadenotecnum corniculum     | Japan          | KY160          | AY374593             | LC052130<br>LC052131 | AY374626             | AY374576             | AY374560             |
| Trichadenotechum comiculum<br>Trichadenotecnum cinnamonum     | Malaysia       | KY347          | LC052035             | LC052131<br>LC052132 | LC051920             | LC051977             | LC052091             |
| Trichadenotechum chinamonum<br>Trichadenotecnum sp.Taiwan.spi | Taiwan         | KY344          | LC052035<br>LC052036 | LC052132             | LC051920<br>LC051921 | LC051977<br>LC051978 | LC052091             |
| Trichadenotechum sp.Taiwan.spi<br>Trichadenotecnum sclerotum  | Nepal          | KY364          | LC052036<br>LC052037 | LC052133<br>LC052134 | LC051921<br>LC051922 | LC051978<br>LC051979 | LC052092<br>LC052093 |
| Trichadenotechum scierotum<br>Trichadenotecnum sp.Nepal2      | Nepal          | KY340          | LC052037<br>LC052038 | LC052134<br>LC052135 | LC051922<br>LC051923 | LC051979<br>LC051980 | LC032093             |
|   |                |                |                      |                      |                      |                      | AV274561             |
| Trichadenotecnum furcalingum<br>Trichadenotecnum isseii       | Japan<br>Nepal | KY176<br>KY349 | AY374594<br>LC052039 | LC052136<br>LC052137 | AY374627<br>LC051924 | AY374577<br>LC051981 | AY374561<br>LC052094 |
|   | Thailand       | KY349<br>KY449 |                      | LC052137<br>LC052138 |                      |                      | LC052094<br>LC052095 |
| Trichadenotecnum sp.Tiger35                                   |                |                | LC052040             |                      | LC051925             | LC051982             | _                    |
| Trichadenotecnum sp.Tiger27                                   | Thailand       | KY443          | LC052041             | LC052139             | LC051926             | LC051983             | -                    |
| Trichadenotecnum sp.Tiger36                                   | Thailand       | KY458          | LC052042             | LC052140             | LC051927             | LC051984             | -                    |
| Trichadenotecnum sp.Tiger43                                   | Thailand       | KY460          | LC052043             | LC052141             | LC051928             | LC051985             | LC052096             |
| Trichadenotecnum sp.Tiger30                                   | Thailand       | KY457          | LC052044             | LC052142             | LC051929             | LC051986             | -                    |
| Trichadenotecnum sp.Tiger37                                   | Thailand       | KY459          | LC052045             | LC052143             | LC051930             | LC051987             | LC052097             |
| Trichadenotecnum sp.Tiger38                                   | Thailand       | KY450          | LC052046             | -<br>LC052144        | LC051931             | LC051988             | -                    |
| Trichadenotecnum sp.Tiger26                                   | Thailand       | KY442          | LC052047             | LC052144             | LC051932             | LC051989             | LC052098             |
| Trichadenotecnum sp.Ghana                                     | Ghana          | KY363          | LC052048             | LC052145             | LC051933             | LC051990             | LC052099             |
| Trichadenotecnum malayense                                    | Malaysia       | KY334          | LC052049             | LC052146             | LC051934             | LC051991             | LC052100             |
| Trichadenotecnum falx   | Japan          | KY174          | AY374595             | LC052147             | AY374628             | AY374578             | AY374562             |
| Trichadenotecnum danieli                                      | Nepal          | KY339          | LC052050             | LC052148             | LC051935             | LC051992             | LC052101             |
| Trichadenotecnum dobhanense                                   | Nepal          | KY355          | LC052051             | LC052149             | LC051936             | LC051993             | LC052102             |
| Trichadenotecnum sp.Tiger44                                   | Thailand       | KY451          | LC052052             | LC052150             | LC051937             | LC051994             | LC052103             |
| Trichadenotecnum sp.Tiger29                                   | Thailand       | KY448          | LC052053             | -                    | LC051938             | LC051995             | -                    |
| Trichadenotecnum yatai  | Malaysia       | KY187          | LC052054             | LC052151             | LC051939             | LC051996             | -                    |
| Trichadenotecnum fuscipenne                                   | Japan          | KY159          | AY374596             | LC052152             | AY374629             | AY374579             | AY374563             |
|   |                |                |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |

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