



## Entomological Society of America Proposal Form for New Common Name or Change of ESA-Approved Common Name

Complete this form and e-mail to [pubs@entsoc.org](mailto:pubs@entsoc.org).

*Submissions will not be considered unless this form is filled out completely.*

The proposer is expected to be familiar with the rules, recommendations, and procedures outlined in the "Use and Submission of Common Names" on the ESA website at <https://www.entsoc.org/pubs/use-and-submission-common-names>.

### 1. Proposed new common name:

Short-spined thrips

### 2. Previously approved common name (if any):

N/A

### 3. Scientific name (genus, species, author): *Thrips parvispinus* Karny, 1922

Order: Thysanoptera

Family: Thripidae

### **Supporting Information**

**4. Please provide a clear and convincing explanation for why a common name is needed, possibly including but not limited to the taxon's economic, ecological, or medical importance, striking appearance, abundance, or conservation status:**

*Thrips parvispinus* is an invasive and polyphagous pest, native to the Asian Tropics. It is a serious pest of economic importance worldwide. Moreover, it is a pest of quarantine significance, in Florida, *T. parvispinus* is categorized as Quarantine significant by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services-Division of Plant Industry (FDACS-DPI). Despite their economic importance and quarantine status, *T. parvispinus* lacks an official common name. This pest feeds on multiple host plants including ornamental and vegetable crops.

**5. Stage or characteristic to which the proposed common name refers.**

(If the description involves a physical feature, it is strongly encouraged that an image of the organism be provided with this submission.)

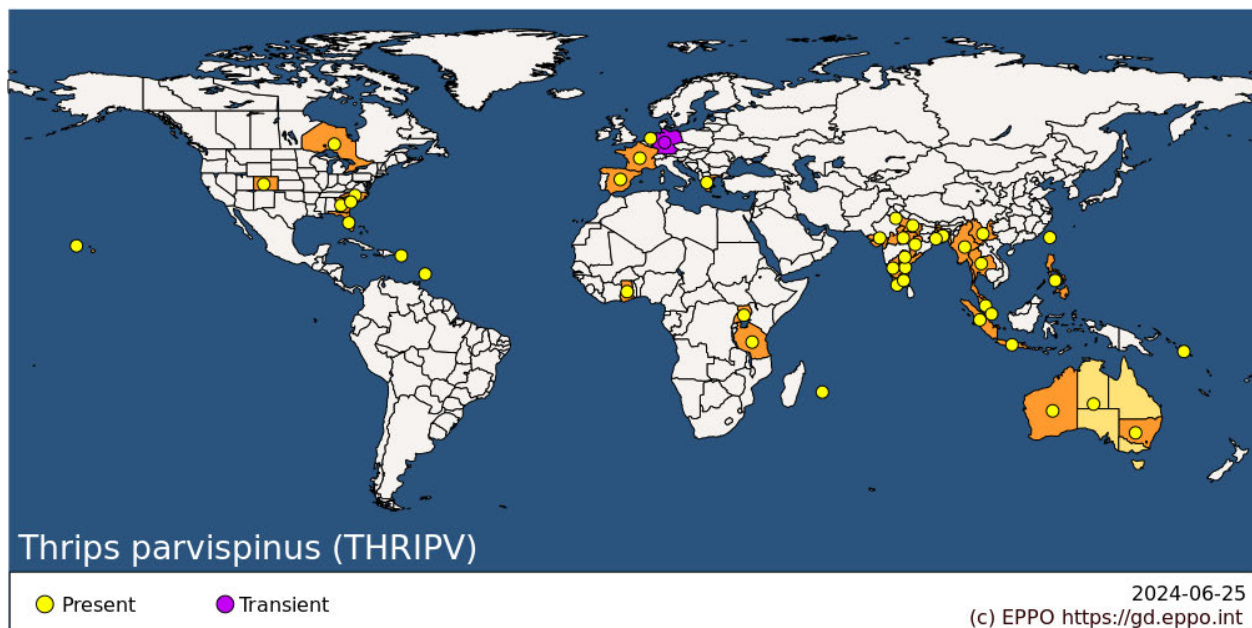
The proposed common name **Short-spined thrips** refers to the Latin *parvispinus*, which means short spined (parvi = short, spinus = spines).



Photography by Dr. Daniel Carrillo, associate professor of Entomology and Nematology at UF/IFAS Tropical Research and Education Center.

## 6. Distribution (include references):

*Thrips parvispinus* is native to the Asian tropics most likely from Thailand. It is distributed in America, Africa, Asia, Europa, and Oceania.



## 7. Principal hosts (include references):

*Thrips parvispinus* is a polyphagous pest with a wide range of hosts including, fruits, vegetables, and ornamentals (Seal et al., 2023). It has been reported feeding on at least 43 plant species from 19 families from different crop types, including fiber crops, fruits, legumes, ornamental plants, tobacco crops, and vegetables (Ahmed et al., 2023). *Thrips parvispinus* has been identified as a major host of *Capsicum* (Hutasoit et al., 2018; Johari et al., 2014; Mound & Collins, 2000; Sethy et al., 2023; Vos & Frinking, 1998), *Anthurium* (Pijnakker, 2023; Soto-Adames, 2020), Papaya (Pijnakker, 2023; Tyagi et al., 2015), *Gardenia*

(Mound & Collins, 2000; Pijnakker, 2023; Soto-Adames, 2020), potato (Murai et al., 2010; Pijnakker, 2023; Seal et al., 2023; Soto-Adames, 2020)



Damage of *T. parvispinus* on different hosts: A. Damage on Bell pepper plant photography by Alexandra M. Revynthi, UF/IFAS-TREC, B. Damage on Gardenia photography by Lyle Buss, University of Florida, C. Damage on anthurium leaf photography by L.S. Osborne, UF/IFAS-MREC

**8. Please provide multiple references indicating clearly that the proposed name is already established and ideally widespread in use. If the name has been newly coined for purposes of this application, please state so:**

For *Thrips parvispinus* there is no official common name, in the papers already published refer to this insect with the scientific name. The pest alert from the National Plant Protection Organization in the Netherlands, simply stated two names pepertrips in Dutch and tobacco thrips in English (The Netherlands Plant Protection Organization, 2019). However, given the polyphagous nature of this pest, those names can be misleading. Furthermore, both peppers and tobacco have other thrips pests. Hence, we recommend using morphological features of the thrips, as indicated in its scientific name, rather than a host plant.

**9. Please identify any common names in use, including those used by indigenous peoples in the insect's area of origin, that have been applied to this taxon, other than the one herein proposed, with references. Please briefly describe the methods used to find alternative names and, if necessary, justify why each alternate name is inadequate:**

Tobacco thrips: This common name is already used as a common name for *Frankliniella fusca* (Hinds) Insecta: Thysanoptera: Thripidae (Carter & Gillett-Kaufman, 2015; Groves et al., 2002)

Black thrips: This common name can be inadequate because it does not represent *T. parvispinus*. Females are brown in the head and prothorax, while the meso- and metathorax are yellowish brown and their abdomen is black. Males are uniformly yellow (Pijnakker, 2023).

**10. Please identify any other organisms to which your proposed common name could apply, giving careful consideration to closely related taxa. Please justify why the proposed common name is (i) unsuitable for each of those taxa and/or (ii) better suited for the proposed taxon:**

N/A

**11. Please document your efforts to consult with entomologists (including taxonomic specialists), colleagues, or other professionals who work with the taxon as to the suitability and need for the proposed common name. Please note that this is an important element of your proposal; proposals that do not document these steps are less likely to be successful.**

Expert entomologists that have scientific publications about *T. parvispinus* and supports **short-spined thrips** as the common name of *T. parvispinus*.

Dr. Felipe Soto-Adames [felipe.soto-adames@fdacs.gov](mailto:felipe.soto-adames@fdacs.gov), Curator of Arthropods at Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services:

“Yes, I think that **short-spined thrips** is an appropriate common name for *T. parvispinus*. After all, that is the approximate meaning of the epithet ‘parvispinus’ (July 2024)

Alexandra Revynthi [arevynthi@ufl.edu](mailto:arevynthi@ufl.edu), assistant professor of Entomology and Nematology at UF/IFAS Tropical Research and Education Center.

“Given the polyphagous nature of Thrips parvispinus, it would not be accurate to restrict its common name on one host.”

## References

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