

**TRIALEURODES RICINI (MISRA) (HOMOPTERA : ALEYRODIDAE)
FOUND ON CASTOR BEAN PLANTS *RICINUS COMMUNIS* IN
EGYPT AND NOT *TRIALEURODES VAPORARIORUM* (WESTWOOD)**

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Abstract

This paper is to identify and confirm the presence of *Trialeurodes ricini* (Misra) on castor bean plants, *Ricinus communis* in Egypt which formerly nominated wrongly as *Trialeurodes vaporariorum* (Westwood).

INTRODUCTION

The castor whitefly, *Trialeurodes ricini* (Misra) (Homoptera :Aleyrodidae) is a serious pest of field crops such as castor bean (*Ricinus Communis*) (Euphorbiaceae), cotton (*Gossypium hirsutum*) (Malvaceae), and pumpkin (*Cucurbita maxima*) (Cucurbitaceae) in tropical regions of Asia and Africa (Mound & Holsey, 1978 and Bink-Moenen, 1983). Whitefly nymphs and adults suck the cell sap, mostly from the lower surface of leaves. Production of honey dew by nymphs and development of sooty moulds reduces the seed yield of castor bean (Patel *et al.*, 1986). Abd-Rabou (1990) collected and identified *Trialeurodes vaporariorum* (Westwood) on castor bean plants from different localities, including Giza, Beni-Suef and Qalyubiya. The specimens were kept in the Aleyrodid Collection, Plant Protection Research Institute, Ministry of Agriculture, Egypt.

The present work deals with identification of *T. ricini* that was formerly known wrongly as *T. vaporariorum* on castor bean plants (*Ricinus communis*) in Egypt.

For long years in Egypt, it was well established that *T. vaporariorum* infested a few wild plants of which one was *Ricinus communis*.

Recently, in Qalyubiya governorate during Sept. 1997, trees were found heavily infested with this pest.

In a study comprising collection, identification, and proper nomenclature of the existing *Trialeurodes* species in Egypt (Abd-Rabou, 1998d), it was found that species infesting *Ricinus communis*, and formerly known as *T. vaporariorum*, was in fact the well known *Trialeurodes ricini* (Misra). All landmarks and identification spots clearly re-

flected that the nomenclature *T. vaporariorum* was wrong and merely the species is *T. ricini*, Fig 1. Samples were also sent for identification in U.K. and Dr. Gina Banks (John Innes Center, U.K.) confirmed the species to be *T. ricini*.

Published papers dealing with *T. vaporariorum* in Egypt, as those works of Abd-Rabou (1996,1997a, b,c, 1998,b,c,d) and other papers dealt with this species are merely *T. ricini* and not *T. vaporariorum*.

The pupal cases are distinguished by the large basal spines of the legs, vasiform orifice with a long anterior rim. Operculum partly filling vasiform orifice, lingula tip mostly exposed, three-lobed. Caudal furrow distinct.

INTRODUCTION

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ذبابة الصوب الزجاجية البيضاء على نبات الخروع فى مصر

يطلق عليها ذبابة الخروع البيضاء

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يتضمن هذا العمل تعريف وتأكيد وجود ذبابة الخروع *Trialeurodes ricini* فى مصر
والتي سبق وجودها وعزلها فى مصر على أساس أنها ذبابة الصوب الزجاجية البيضاء
Trialeurodes vaporariorum.

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