

Walkerthrips neatus

Distinguishing features

Female micropterous. Body, legs and antennae brown to dark brown, with red internal pigments. Head weakly reticulate, with scattered small, acute setae; postocular setae short; compound eyes directed forwards, prolonged ventrally; maxillary stylets close together, extending to compound eyes. Antennae 7-segmented; segments III–VII with distinct pedicels; segments III and IV each with 2 stout sense cones. Pronotum faintly sculptured on anterior and posterior margins; major setae short and acute, scarcely twice as long as discal setae; epimeral setae short and broadly capitate. Basantra absent; mesopresternum transverse with median swelling, broadly fused to mesoeusternum anterior margin; metathoracic sternopleural sutures absent. Metanotum broad, bearing up to 7 pairs of small discal setae. Fore tarsal tooth absent. Fore wing lobe small but variable in size, bearing up to 4 acute setae. Pelta faintly sculptured; tergite II with group of about 10 small setae medially; II–VII with weak transverse sculpture, each with 2 pairs of acute posteromarginal setae; tergite IX posteromarginal setae S1 and S2 capitate, almost as long as basal width of tube; sternites with a few small discal setae, marginal setae short.

Male not known.

Related species

Only one species is placed in the genus *Walkerthrips*. Described in *Azaleothrips*, the original authors indicated that this placement was not satisfactory because the pronotal setae are all slender and acute, unlike any of the species in *Azaleothrips*. Recognising this, Bhatti (1995) transferred *neatus* to a new monobasic genus.

Biological data

Described from five micropterous females taken from "sward" in the Dunstan Range in 1971, another 12 females were taken together with larvae from hummock grassland a little further south at Old Man Range in 2001.

Distribution data

Known only from New Zealand (CO).

Family name

PHLAEOTHIRIPIDAE, PHLAEOTHIRIPINAE

Species name

Walkerthrips neatus (Mound & Walker)

Original name and synonyms

Azaleothrips neatus Mound & Walker, 1986: 45

References

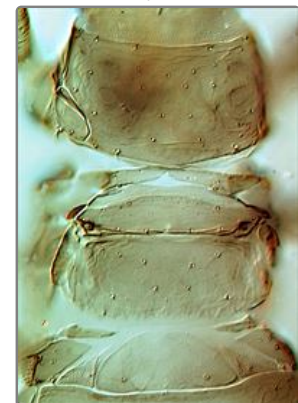
Bhatti JS (1995) Studies on some Phlaeothripidae (Insecta: Tubulifera). *Zoology (Journal of Pure and Applied Zoology)* 5: 97–110.
Mound LA & Walker AK (1986) Tubulifera (Insecta: Thysanoptera). *Fauna of New Zealand* 10: 1–140.



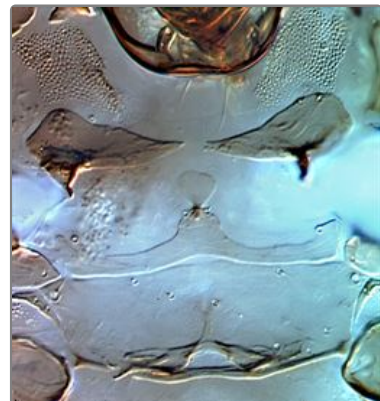
Antenna



Head & pronotum



Pro, meso & metanotum, and pelta



Prosternal ferna and mesopresternum