Dendrothrips eastopi

Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body and legs yellow, only antennal segments V–IX brown; fore wing completely pale. Antennae 9-segmented, segment VI with a complete transverse suture; segments III–IV each with a forked sense cone. Head with ocellar setae pair III about 1.5 times as long as the diameter of an ocellus, and weakly spatulate; maxillary palps 2-segmented. Pronotum with one pair of prominent posteroangular setae that are strongly spatulate. Metanotum with narrow elongate reticulation, median pair of setae small and arising medially. Metathoracic furca lyre-shaped, extending into mesothorax. Tarsi all 1-segmented. Fore wing apex bluntly rounded, antero-marginal cilia arising ventrally behind apparent margin, veinal setae minute, postero-marginal cilia straight. Abdominal tergites II–VIII median setae long and close together; lateral thirds of tergites with transverse striae, of which the posterior striae bear microtrichia-like ridges; VIII with short postero-marginal comb of microtrichia. Sternites III–VII with three pairs of small postero-marginal setae.

Related species

There are about 55 species listed in the genus *Dendrothrips*, of which only four are known from Britain, and a further five from elsewhere in Europe. Most species in this genus are known from Africa, Asia and Australia. They all have the metathoracic furca elongate and “lyre-shaped”, as do other members of the Dendrothripinae (Mound & Tree, 2016). However, in *Dendrothrips* species the fore wing is unusual with the antero-marginal cilia arising ventrally and well-behind the apparent anterior margin. *D. eastopi* is similar to *saltator* in having a pair of short but conspicuous posteroangular setae on the pronotum, but the tergal sculpture is transversely elongate not reticulate.

Biological data

Apparently associated only with *Hedera helix* (Araliaceae), and feeding, breeding and pupating on the leaves.

Distribution data

In Britain, known only from the type specimens taken in Kew Gardens (Pitkin & Palmer, 1975), but this species has also been reported from Germany (zur Strassen, 2003) and is possibly more widespread.

Family name

THRIPIDAE - DENDROTHRIPINAE

Species name

*Dendrothrips eastopi* Pitkin & Palmer

Original name and synonyms

*Dendrothrips eastopi* Pitkin & Palmer, 1975: 75

References

