

Aeolothrips vittatus

Distinguishing features

Female with fore wing posterior margin dark except at base and apex, with one transverse dark band. Body and legs brown; antennal segments III–IV yellow with apex shaded in contrast to brown of remaining segments. Antennae 9-segmented, segment III with linear sensorium less than half as long as segment, IV with sensorium about half as long as segment; segments V–IX forming a single unit with V considerably longer than VI–IX. Head and pronotum with no long setae. Fore tarsus apically with stout recurved ventral hamus.

Metanotum reticulate. Marginal setae on sternites arising at or close to margin; sternite VII median posteromarginal setae closer to setae S2 than to each other; 2 pairs of accessory setae arise far anterior to posterior margin.

Male not known.

Related species

About 115 species are placed in the genus *Aeolothrips*, mostly from the Palaearctic Region but with about 30 from the Nearctic including the western USA, and a very few from India and Africa. *A. vittatus* is another member of the species-group in which the fore wing has a dark posterior margin. It is most similar to *A. versicolor* and *A. melaleucus* but has only one transverse dark band on the fore wing.

Biological data

Associated with branches of *Pinus* trees, and presumably a predator of mites and thrips larvae.

Distribution data

Collected infrequently at various places across England and Scotland, mainly to the east and as far north as Inverness (Mound *et al.*, 1976), this species is widespread across Europe southward from Norway and the Asian Palaearctic (zur Strassen, 2003), and also occurs in northern USA (Stannard, 1968).

Family name

AEOLOTHRIPIDAE

Species name

Aeolothrips vittatus Haliday

Original name and synonyms

Aeolothrips (*Coleothrips*) *vittatus* Haliday, 1836: 451

Aeolothrips (*Coleothrips*) *limbata* Reuter, 1879: 213, 222

Aeolothrips vittatus var. *decipiens* Priesner, 1920: 9

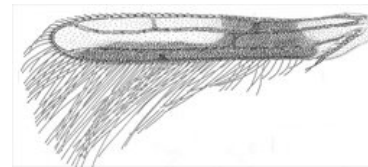
References

Mound LA, Morison GD, Pitkin BR & Palmer JM (1976) Thysanoptera. *Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* 1 (11): 1–79.

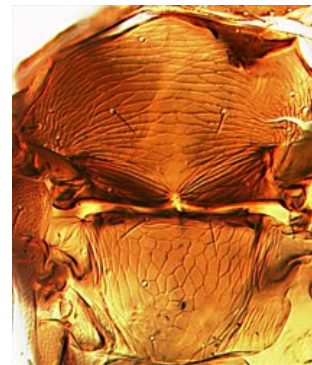
Stannard LJ (1968) The thrips, or Thysanoptera, of Illinois. *Bulletin of the Illinois Natural History Survey* 29: 213–552.



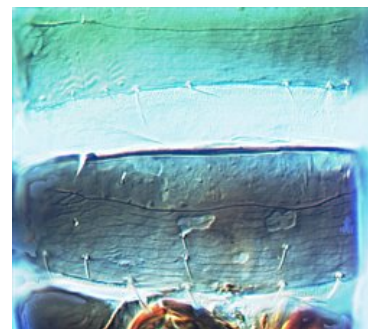
vittatus fore wing



vittatus fore wing



vittatus meso & metanota



vittatus sternite VII

zur Strassen R (2003) Die terebranten Thysanopteren Europas und des Mittelmeer-Gebietes. *Die Tierwelt Deutschlands* **74**: 1–271.