

# Frankliniella intonsa

## Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body and legs variable in colour, mainly brown with head and pronotum often paler than abdomen, tibiae and tarsi largely yellow; major setae dark; antennal segments III–IV yellow with apices shaded; fore wing pale with setae dark. Antennae 8-segmented; segments III–IV with forked sense cone, segment VIII as long as VII. Head wider than long; three pairs of ocellar setae present, pair III slightly longer than side of ocellar triangle, arising on anterior margins of triangle; postocular setae pair I present, pair IV short, no longer than diameter of hind ocellus. Pronotum with 5 pairs of major setae; anteromarginal setae shorter than anteroangulars, one pair of minor setae present medially between posteromarginal submedian setae; upper surface of fore coxae with microtrichia on sculpture lines. Metanotum with 2 pairs of setae at anterior margin, campaniform sensilla absent. Fore wing with 2 complete rows of veinal setae. Abdominal tergites V–VIII with paired ctenidia, on VIII anterolateral to spiracle; posteromarginal comb on VIII complete, but microtrichia short, slender and arising from triangular bases. Sternites III–VII without discal setae.

Male smaller and paler than female; tergite VIII with no posteromarginal comb; tergite IX with posterolateral setae stout in larger males; sternites III–VII each with transverse pore plate.

## Related species

This Eurasian species is closely similar to *F. occidentalis*, but with postocular setae pair IV considerably shorter, and only very rarely with metanotal campaniform sensilla. Currently 230 species are listed in *Frankliniella*, with up to 130 further names placed into synonymy (Nakahara, 1997). These synonymies result from unrecognized variability in size and colour exhibited by many species. This variation is reflected in the large number of subspecies names listed under *intonsa*.

## Biological data

Feeding and breeding in flowers, and highly polyphagous. Adults have been taken from a very wide range of plants, often low-lying in the vegetation, and in Britain are often found on *Erica* [Ericaceae] and *Trifolium repens* [Fabaceae]. In 2024–25 considered a pest on strawberries in New Zealand (Mound *et al.* 2017).

## Distribution data

Widespread in Britain, although records have been mainly from the southern counties and are rarer into Scotland (Mound *et al.*, 1976); however, the species is now known to be common in Yorkshire (e.g., Collins, 2006) and the scarcity of northern records may be the result of under-recording. Widespread across Europe from Scandinavia southwards. Also south through Iran to northern India, southern China, Taiwan (zur Strassen, 2003) and Indonesia (Makassar), and by 2025 established in New Zealand (Mound *et al.* 2017).



Female



Antenna



Antenna



Head

## Family name

THRIPIDAE - THIRIPINAE

## Species name

*Frankliniella intonsa* (Trybom)

## Original name and synonyms

*Thrips intonsa* Trybom, 1895: 182  
*Physopus vulgatissima* var. *nigropilosa* Uzel, 1895: 96  
*Physopus vulgatissima* var. *fulvicornis* Uzel, 1895: 96  
*Physopus vulgatissima* var. *albicornis* Uzel, 1895: 96  
*Physopus vulgatissima* var. *adusta* Uzel, 1895: 96  
*Thrips pallida* Karny, 1907: 49  
*Physopus brevistylis* Karny, 1908: 278  
*Frankliniella breviceps* Bagnall, 1911: 2  
*Frankliniella vicina* Karny, 1922: 94  
*Frankliniella intonsa* var. *maritima* Priesner, 1925: 17  
*Frankliniella formosae* Moulton, 1928: 324  
*Frankliniella formosae* f. *tricolor* Moulton, 1928: 325  
*Frankliniella intonsa* var. *rufula* Keler, 1936: 104  
*Frankliniella intonsa* f. *norashensis* Yakhontov & Jurbanov, 1957: 1279

## References

Collins DW (2006) *Odontothrips confusus* Priesner (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) new to Britain and recent records of other British thrips. *British Journal of Entomology and Natural History* **19**: 145–156.

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

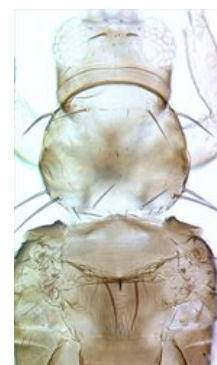
Mound LA, Nielsen M & Hastings A (2017). Thysanoptera Aotearoa – Thrips of New Zealand. Lucidcentral.org, Identic Pty Ltd, Queensland, Australia.  
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Nakahara S (1997) Annotated list of the *Frankliniella* species of the world (Thysanoptera: Thripidae). *Contributions on Entomology, International* **2** (4): 355–389.

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



Head & pronotum



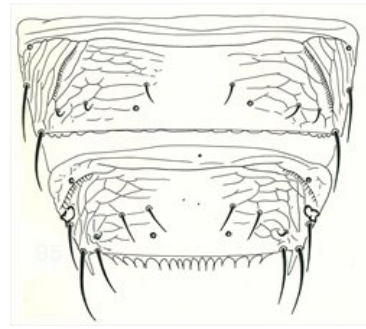
Head & thorax



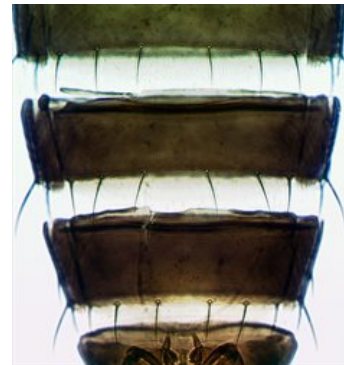
Meso & metanota



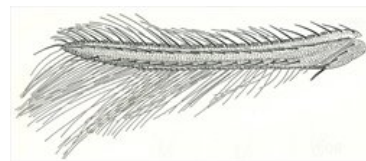
Female tergites VIII-IX



Tergites VII-VIII



Sternites V-VII



Fore wing



Fore wing