Haplothrips helianthemi

Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body, legs and antennae brown to dark brown, fore tarsi and base of antennal segment III yellow; fore wing pale with base dark; major setae light brown. Antennae 8-segmented, segment III with 2 short stout sense cones, IV with 4 similar sense cones; VIII weakly narrowed to base. Head longer than wide; maxillary stylets 50% of head width apart, retracted to postocular setae, maxillary bridge complete; postocular setae pointed, about as long as dorsal length of compound eye. Pronotum with only 2 pairs of major setae, both with apices pointed, anteromarginal and anteroangular setae no larger than discal setae, midlaterals slightly larger; epimeral sutures complete; prosternal basantra present, mesopresternum eroded to paired lateral triangles, weakly connected medially. Fore wing constricted medially, with about 7 duplicated cilia; sub-basal setae arise in a line, with pointed apices. Tergite IX setae S1 pointed, about 0.5 as long as tube.

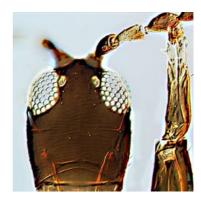
Male with no pore plate on sternite VIII; fore tarsal tooth present; tergite IX setae S2 short and stout; aedeagus apex similar to that of *leucanthemi*.

Related species

The genus *Haplothrips* is one of the three most species-rich genera of Thysanoptera, and currently includes about 245 species worldwide. Most of these species come from the Holarctic or the Old World



helianthemi Antenna



helianthemi Head & fore leg

tropics, with 80 listed from Europe and 14 from Britain. No *Haplothrips* species is known to be endemic to the Neotropics, although a few are native to southern South America (Mound & Zapater, 2003). *Haplothrips* species are largely phytophagous, particularly associated with the flowers of Asteraceae and Poaceae, but some are predatory (Mound & Minaei, 2007). *Haplothrips helianthemi* is unusual within this genus in having only two pairs of long major setae on the pronotum, although amongst species from Europe it shares this character state with *jasionis*.

Biological data

Breeding in the flowers of Helianthemum chamaecystus [Cistaceae].

Distribution data

In Britain, collected at a number of sites in Northamptonshire, Rutland, and Peterborough, during an ecological investigation of its host in 1979 (Collins, 2010a). Otherwise known only from a small number of central European countries including Germany, Hungary and Slovenia.

Family name

PHLAEOTHRIPIDAE - PHLAEOTHRIPINAE

Species name

Haplothrips helianthemi Oettingen

Original name and synonyms

Haplothrips helianthemi Oettingen, 1942: 6

References

Collins DW (2010a) Thysanoptera of Great Britain: a revised and updated checklist. Zootaxa 2412: 21-41.

Mound LA & Minaei K (2007) Australian insects of the *Haplothrips* lineage (Thysanoptera – Phlaeothripinae). *Journal of Natural History* **41**: 2919–2978.

Mound LA & Zapater MC (2003) South American *Haplothrips* species (Thysanoptera, Phlaeothripidae), with a new species of biological control interest to Australia against weedy *Heliotropium amplexicaule* (Boraginaceae). *Neotropical Entomology* **32**: 437–442.