

Hoplothrips longisetis

Distinguishing features

Female fully winged, male with wings shorter than thorax width. Body and femora brown, tarsi and tibiae yellow, antennal segment III yellow in basal half, fore wings weakly shaded toward apex. Antennae 8-segmented; segments III and IV each with 2 sense cones; VIII broadly joined to VII. Head longer than wide, cheeks almost parallel, without prominent setae; postocular setae long and softly pointed, wide apart; maxillary stylets retracted to postocular setae, about one third of head width apart. Pronotum without sculpture medially, with 4 pairs of long, weakly capitate major setae, anteromarginals scarcely larger than discal setae; prosternal basantra absent. Fore tarsus without a tooth. Metanotum without sculpture medially. Fore wing parallel sided, without duplicated cilia. Abdominal tergite I, the pelta, with lateral margins confluent with anterior margin of tergite II; tergites II–VII with two pairs of weakly sigmoid wing-retaining setae but anterior pair reduced on each tergite, marginal setae long and pointed; tergite IX setae S1 pointed, longer than tube.

Male similar to female but micropterous, tarsal tooth absent; tergite IX setae S2 short and stout; sternite VIII with no pore plate.

Related species

The genus *Hoplothrips* includes about 120 named species, but there are no modern identification keys to any substantial number of species. The most common species are known to exist as both winged and wingless morphs. Moreover, these species exhibit considerable sexual dimorphism, and males of the same species vary in body size, with some structures exhibiting patterns of allometric growth. As a result, species identification is often difficult (Mound & Walker, 1986; Kobro & Rafoss, 2006; Okajima, 2006). *Hoplothrips longisetis* is unusual within the genus in having only two sense cones on antennal segments III and IV, in the lack of duplicated cilia on the fore wing, and in having the S1 setae on tergite IX longer than the tube; recognising these differences, Priesner placed the species in a separate genus, *Maderothrips*.

Biological data

Breeding in low numbers on dead branches, and probably predatory on mites and thrips larvae living under the dead bark of various Angiosperm trees.

Distribution data

Originally described from a single male collected at Gibside, Durham (Bagnall, 1910), this species is widespread but uncommon in Britain (Pitkin, 1969; Mound *et al.*, 1976), although recorded from Surrey to northern Scotland, and also reported from Scandinavia.

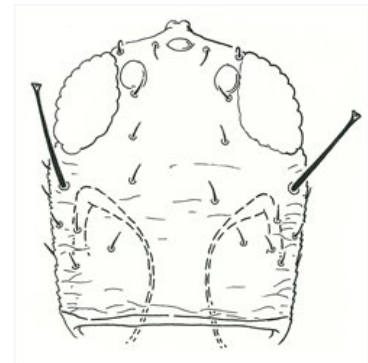
Family name

PHLAEOTHIRIPIDAE - PHLAEOTHIRIPINAE

Species name



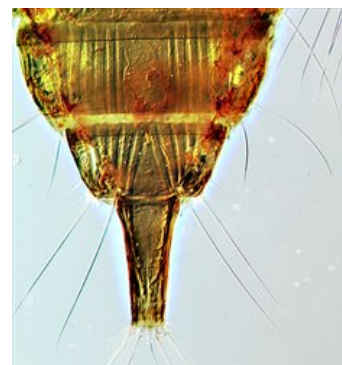
longisetis Head



Head



Antenna



longisetis Tergites VIII-X

Hoplothrips longisetis (Bagnall)

Original name and synonyms

Trichothrips longisetis Bagnall, 1910: 662

Trichothrips maderi Priesner, 1924: 4

References

Bagnall RS (1910) On two new species of *Trichothrips* from the Derwent Valley. *Transactions of the Natural History Society of Northumberland, Durham, and Newcastle-upon-Tyne* **3**: 661–663.

Kobro S & Rafoss T (2006) Identification of adult males and females of *Hoplothrips* species (Thysanoptera: Tubulifera) known from Norway, and some deductions on their life history. *Entomologica Fennica* **17**: 184–192.

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Okajima S (2006) The Suborder Tubulifera (Thysanoptera). *The Insects of Japan* **2**: 1–720.

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