

Odontothrips ignobilis

Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body and legs dark brown, tarsi paler, antennal segment III yellow, IV–VIII brown; fore wings brown with sub-basal white band. Antennae 8-segmented; segments III–IV constricted to apex, each with forked sense cone; segment VI sense cone with enlarged oval base; dorsal apex of segment I with pair of setae. Head wider than long; three pairs of ocellar setae present, pair III as long as distance between compound eyes, arising on or just outside anterior margins of ocellar triangle. Pronotum with two pairs of long posteroangular setae; discal area with sculpture lines but with few setae. Fore tibia apex without claws, but ventrally with small recurved tubercle, and inner margin at apex with a stout seta on a small tubercle. Mesonotum with paired anterior campaniform sensilla, median setae close to posterior margin. Metanotum weakly reticulate; median setae long, arising at anterior margin; campaniform sensilla present. Fore wing first vein with setal row almost complete but with a small sub-apical gap; setal row complete on second vein. Abdominal tergites with no ctenidia, no sculpture medially; tergite VIII with posteromarginal comb broadly interrupted medially, with long slender microtrichia laterally; VIII with group of microtrichia anterolateral to spiracle; IX with 2 pairs of campaniform sensilla, X with long split. Sternites without discal setae, S1 on VII arising in front of margin. Male smaller than female; tergite IX with pair of small stout setae (tubercles?) posterolaterally; sternites without pore plates; extruded genitalia bearing two rows each of 4 (or 5) stout spines that decrease in size distally.

Related species

The genus *Odontothrips* currently includes 33 species. All but two of these are from the Holarctic region, including Iran and China, but one species is described from Rajasthan, India, and another from Guinea. From Europe, 19 species of *Odontothrips* are recorded (zur Strassen, 2003), with eight from Britain. Almost all *Odontothrips* species breed only in the flowers of Fabaceae (Pitkin, 1972). The fore tibial apex of *ignobilis* is similar to that of *loti* but with the claw reduced to little more than a curved tubercle. The fore wing colour and setal row on the first vein are also similar to *loti*, as is the posterior margin of tergite IX in the male, but the male genitalia have two rows of endothecal spines.

Biological data

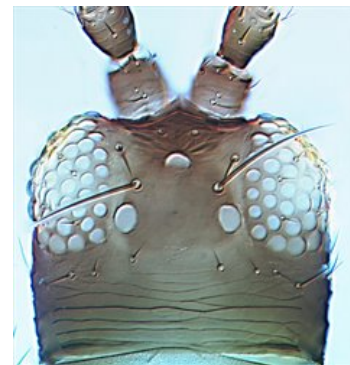
Feeding and breeding in flowers and pupating at ground level. On the continent of Europe it is associated with several species in the genera *Ulex* and *Genista* [Fabaceae] (zur Strassen, 2003). In Britain, its primary (likely only) breeding hosts are *Ulex gallii* and *U. minor*, both of which are in flower in mid and late summer (Collins, 2021a).

Distribution data

In Britain known from Surrey to the Isles of Scilly and north to



Female



Head



Head & pronotum



Head & pronotum

Cumbria, including west Wales, but has yet to be recorded from the north east of England or Scotland (Mound *et al.*, 1976), reflecting the distribution of its primary hosts *Ulex gallii* and *U. minor* in Great Britain (Collins, 2021a). It has also been collected in County Cork in the Republic of Ireland, and is recorded widely across western Europe from Germany to Portugal, as well as Morocco and the Canary Islands.

Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

Species name

Odontothrips ignobilis Bagnall

Original name and synonyms

Odontothrips ignobilis Bagnall, 1919: 262

Odontothrips mutabilis Bagnall, 1924: 262

Odontothrips inermis Bagnall, 1928: 95

References

Collins DW (2021a) Noteworthy recent records of species of Thripidae (Thysanoptera) in Great Britain. *British Journal of Entomology and Natural History* **34**: 169–191.

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

Pitkin BR (1972) A revision of the flower-living genus *Odontothrips* Amyot & Serville. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History) (Entomology)* **26**: 371–402.

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



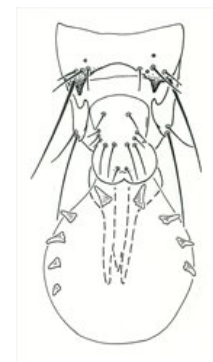
Meso & metanota



Fore tibia & tarsus



Fore wing



Male tergite IX & genitalia