

Oxythrips halidayi

Distinguishing features

Female usually micropterous or hemimacropterous, male not recorded in Britain. Body, legs and antennae dark brown, antennal segment III sometimes slightly paler than I and II; fore wings when present weakly and evenly shaded. Antennae 8-segmented, III and IV each with short forked sense cone. Head wider than long; 3 pairs of ocellar setae, pair III just anterolateral to ocellar triangle, about 0.5 as long as distance between 2 ocelli; maxillary palps 3-segmented. Pronotum with one pair of posteroangular setae; discal area with transverse sculpture lines. Mesonotum with paired anterior campaniform sensilla, median setae on posterior half of sclerite. Metanotum reticulate medially; median setae posterior to anterior margin; campaniform sensilla present. Mesothoracic furca with spinula, metafurca with no spinula. Fore tarsal pulvillus without an apical claw. Abdominal tergites with neither craspedum nor ctenidia; tergites V–VIII with faint transverse sculpture lines medially; VIII with no posteromarginal comb; IX with 2 pairs of campaniform sensilla; X sub-equal in length to IX, with long median split. Pleurotergites with irregular reticulate lines, without microtrichia or discal setae. Sternites without discal setae; setae S1 on VII arise submarginally.

Male similar to female; tergite IX with 2 pairs of short stout setae; sternites III–VI with small pore plate.

Related species

There are 39 species listed in the genus *Oxythrips*, mainly from the Holarctic region, together with a further 12 species known only as fossils. A key to 18 species from Europe is provided by zur Strassen (2003), but some of these species remain poorly defined, including *halidayi*, *quercicola* and *ulmifoliorum*. These are currently distinguished on the basis that *halidayi* is dark brown, and that in the yellow bodied *quercicola* ocellar setae III are longer than in the light brown species *ulmifoliorum* (zur Strassen, 2003). Wing reduction is reported only for *halidayi*, but there is little biological evidence that three species are involved. The genus is probably related to *Anaphothrips*, but is distinguished because all of its species have a single pair of pronotal posteroangular setae (Masumoto & Okajima, 2017a).

Biological data

Feeding and breeding on the leaves of *Fraxinus* [Oleaceae] and *Ulmus* [Ulmaceae].

Distribution data

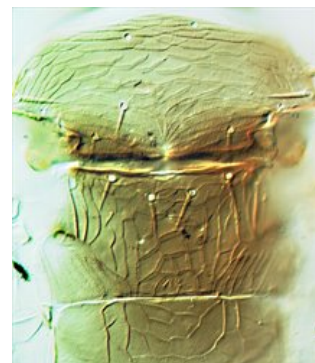
Described from British material (Bagnall, 1924b), and then subsequently collected widely but infrequently between Kent and Inverness; it is also known from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland (Mound *et al.*, 1976). It is unknown if or how the species has been affected by Dutch elm disease since the 1970s; there has been only one, recent, record since the disease arrived in Britain (Collins, 2021a). Recorded in Europe from France, Germany and the Czech Republic and, further afield, from Iran (Minaei, 2013).



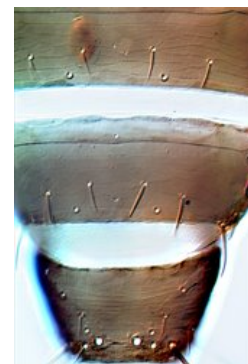
Antenna



Pronotum



Meso & metanota



Female tergites VII-IX

Family name

THRIPIDAE - THIRIPINAE

Species name

Oxythrips halidayi Bagnall

Original name and synonyms

Oxythrips halidayi Bagnall, 1924: 272

References

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