

Rubiothrips silvarum

Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body legs and antennae brown, tarsi paler; fore wing evenly shaded. Antennae 8-segmented, segment VI narrowed to base but without a basal ring; segments III–IV with slender forked sense cone. Head and pronotum without long setae. Head with 3 pairs of ocellar setae, pair III arising between anterior margins of posterior ocelli, pair I anterolateral to first ocellus. Mesonotum with paired anterior campaniform sensilla, median setae arising far forward of posterior margin. Metanotum reticulate, median setae well behind anterior margin, without campaniform sensilla. Fore wing with veinal setae shorter than half of wing width, first vein with 3 setae on distal half, second vein with about 8 widely spaced setae. Abdominal tergites with transversely reticulate sculpture lines, at least on posterior half of sclerites, median setae much longer than distance between their bases and arising on anterior half of each tergite; VIII with no posteromarginal comb; IX with 2 pairs of campaniform sensilla but lacking a small seta between the major posterior median and submedian setae; X with long median split; pleurotergites V–VII with marginal seta arising in front of margin. Sternites without discal setae, setae S1 on VII arising in front of margin. Male similar to female; tergite IX without stout dorsal setae; sternites III–VI each with large transverse pore plate, VII with smaller circular one.

Related species

Ten species are currently listed in *Rubiothrips*, but only two are established in Britain, with a further five species recorded from elsewhere in Europe (Bhatti, 1978; zur Strassen 2003), two more from Iran (Minaei, 2013) and one from Japan (Masumoto & Okajima, 2017a). Of these ten species, seven are recorded as being associated with species of *Galium* [Rubiaceae], as are the species of the related genus *Belothrips*. The form of antennal segment VI and the setae on tergite IX differ in the two British species, *silvarum* and *validus* (zur Strassen, 2003).

Biological data

Found on leaves and flowers of its host plants, and associated particularly with *Galium verum* [Rubiaceae].

Distribution data

Recorded from southern England as far north as the East Midlands (Mound *et al.*, 1976), but widespread across Europe.

Family name

THRIPIDAE - THIRIPINAE

Species name

Rubiothrips silvarum (Priesner)

Original name and synonyms



Female



Antenna



Meso & metanotum



Tergites VII-X

Anaphothrips silvarum Priesner, 1920: 71

References

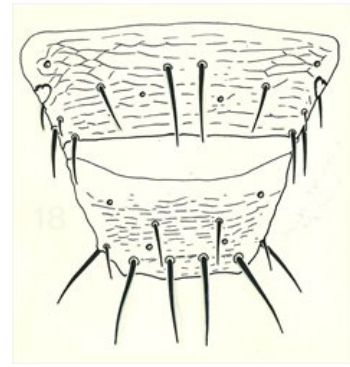
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Female tergites VIII-IX