

# Thrips angusticeps

## Distinguishing features

Both sexes either fully winged or micropterous. Body and legs brown, tarsi light brown, antennal segment III yellow to yellowish brown, IV light brown; fore wings shaded. Antennae 8-segmented; III–IV with forked sense cone. Head with 2 pairs of ocellar setae; pair III no longer than side of ocellar triangle, arising just outside the triangle; postocular setae pairs I & III slightly longer than ocellar setae III, postocular setae pair II minute. Pronotum with 2 pairs of posteroangular setae; posterior margin with 3, or more usually 4, pairs of setae. Mesonotum with paired anterior campaniform sensilla; median setae arise well in front of posterior margin. Metanotum with longitudinal striae converging to posterior, but irregular around median setal bases with faint markings between these striae; median setae arising close together behind anterior margin; campaniform sensilla absent. Fore wing setae relatively long, first vein with 5–10 setae on distal half; second vein with about 12 setae. Abdominal tergite II with 3 lateral marginal setae; tergites V–VIII with paired ctenidia, on VIII posteromesad to spiracles; tergite VIII posteromarginal comb variable, sometimes with complete almost regular comb, but microtrichia often arising in groups, and more rarely apparently absent; pleurotergites with no discal setae, posterior margin with dentate microtrichia; tergite IX with 2 pairs of campaniform sensilla, X with median split. Sternite II with 1–3 discal setae, III–VII with 7–15 discal setae in irregular double rows; sternite VII marginal setae S1 arise in front of margin. Male smaller than female; tergite VIII with no posteromarginal comb; tergite IX median setae slender; sternites III–VII with large oval pore plate.

## Related species

Although *Thrips angusticeps* has discal setae on the sternites but not the pleurotergites, it is unusual amongst the species that share those character states in commonly being micropterous. Alternatively, when the fore wings are developed they are then distinguished by the presence of numerous setae on the distal half of the first vein. The genus *Thrips* is the second largest genus in the Thysanoptera, and currently includes, worldwide, over 300 species. All members of genus *Thrips* lack ocellar setae I on the head, and they all have ctenidia on tergite VIII posteromesad to the spiracles. Other characters, such as number of antennal segments, number of setae on the fore wing veins, and number of discal setae on the sternites are variable between species (Palmer, 1992; Nakahara, 1994; Mound & Masumoto, 2005).

## Biological data

Feeding and breeding in the flowers of its host plants; apparently polyphagous though associated particularly with species of Brassicaceae.

## Distribution data

In Britain, recorded mainly from the southern half of England and from



Female



Head & pronotum



Antenna



Antenna

Yorkshire, but there are also several records from Aberdeenshire (Mound *et al.*, 1976). The species is widespread across Europe.

## Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

## Species name

*Thrips angusticeps* Uzel

## Original name and synonyms

*Thrips angusticeps* Uzel, 1895: 191

*Achaetothrips lobopecta* Karny, 1908: 111

*Bagnallia asemus* Williams, 1913: 223

*Thrips ebneri* Karny, 1914: 54

*Thrips paucisetosus* Priesner, 1927: 401

## References

Mound LA & Masumoto M (2005) The genus *Thrips* (Thysanoptera, Thripidae) in Australia, New Caledonia and New Zealand. *Zootaxa* **1020**: 1–64.

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

Nakahara S (1994) The genus *Thrips* Linnaeus (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) of the New World. *United States Department of Agriculture. Technical Bulletin* **1822**: 1–183.

Palmer JM (1992) *Thrips* (Thysanoptera) from Pakistan to the Pacific: a review. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History) Entomology Series* **61** (1): 1–76.



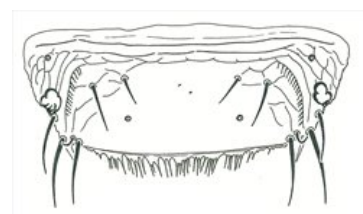
Meso & metanota



Tergites VIII-X



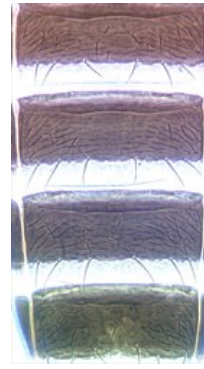
Tergites VIII-IX



Tergite VIII



Fore wing



Female stemites IV-VII