

Thrips dilatatus

Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully either winged or micropterous. Body and legs brown, tarsi yellow, major setae dark brown; antennae brown, segment II darkest; fore wing pale. Antennae 7-segmented; segments III–IV each with short forked sense cone and with apex slightly elongate and constricted, III appearing vasiform in the most extreme examples, VII short. Head wider than long; with 2 pairs of ocellar setae; pair III no longer than distance between 2 ocelli, arising just outside anterior margins of ocellar triangle; postocular setae pairs I and III equal to or slightly longer than ocellar setae III, pair II minute. Pronotum with 2 pairs of prominent posteroangular setae; posterior margin with 3 pairs of setae; microptera with one pair of anteromarginal setae and one pair of mid laterals sometimes about 0,5 as long as posteroangulars. Mesonotum with anterior campaniform sensilla. Metanotum transverse, with irregular reticulation medially; median setae long, arising behind anterior margin and about 0.7 as long as the sclerite; campaniform sensilla present. Fore wing first vein with 3 setae on distal half; second vein with about 10 setae. Abdominal tergite II with 3 lateral marginal setae; V–VIII with paired ctenidia, on VIII posteromesad to spiracles; tergites III–VI each with 3 pairs of equally long discal setae; VIII posterior margin with comb absent medially, microtrichia very short, pale and slender, arising from broad or triangular bases; tergite IX with anterior pair of campaniform sensilla arising anterolaterally, X conical with median split; pleurotergites without discal setae, sculpture lines and posterior margins with few or no microtrichia. Sternites without discal setae; VII with setae S1 arising in front of margin. Male similar to female but smaller; sternites III–VII each with slender pore plate with width about 8 times as long as median length.

Related species

In *Thrips dilatatus* the form of antennal segments III and IV is rather similar to that found in *Thrips klapaleki*, but these two species differ in other character states, including the number of setae laterally on the second tergite, and the form of the comb on tergite VIII. 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, and specific to various Scrophulariaceae, including species of *Euphrasia*, *Pedicularis* and *Rhinanthus*.

Distribution data

Recorded from a number of sites across England, but with most



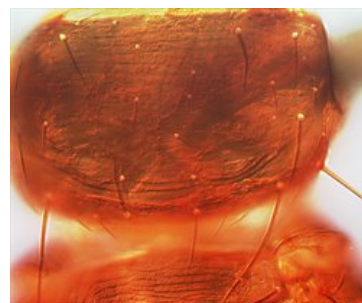
Head & thorax



Antenna



Metanotum



Pronotum

records from Scotland (Morison, 1970b; Mound *et al.*, 1976). This species is widespread across Europe eastwards through Russia (zur Strassen, 2003).

Family name

THRIPIDAE - THIRIPINAE

Species name

Thrips dilatatus Uzel

Original name and synonyms

Thrips dilatatus Uzel, 1895: 202

References

Morison GD (1970b) Observations and records for some British Thysanoptera. XIV Thripidae, *Thrips dilatatus* Uzel. *The Entomologist* **103**: 307–311.

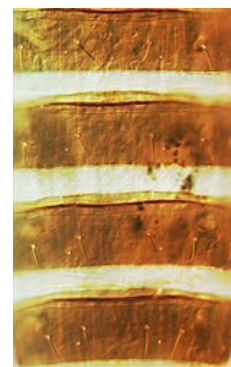
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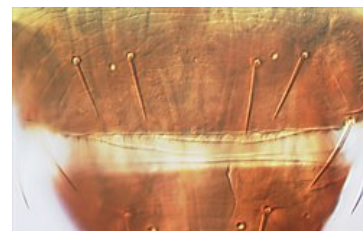
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Tergites



Tergite VIII



Male sternites