

# Baliothrips dispar

## Distinguishing features

Female fully winged or hemimacropterous. Body and femora dark brown, tarsi and apices of tibiae yellow; antennae brown with segment III almost yellow, and IV light brown; fore wings shaded but slightly paler medially and pale at base. Antennae 7-segmented; segments III–IV each with short forked sense cone; III 2.0–2.5 times as long as wide, VII short. Head wider than long, with two pairs of ocellar setae; pair III small, arising on anterior margins of ocellar triangle near the first ocellus, pair II longer than III; postocular setae pair II displaced posterior to this row of setae; maxillary palps 2-segmented. Pronotum with 2 pairs of long posteroangular setae, with no discal setae. Metanotum with irregular longitudinal reticulate lines; median setae arising well behind anterior margin; campaniform sensilla present. Fore wing first vein with 3 (sometimes 2) setae on distal half; second vein with row of 7–10 setae. Abdominal tergite II with 4 lateral marginal setae; tergites VI–VIII with paired ctenidia laterally, on VIII posteromesad to spiracles; tergite VIII posteromarginal without a comb; pleurotergites without discal setae. Sternites II–VII with three pairs of marginal setae, S1 arising well in front of posterior margin; sternites without discal setae.

Male smaller than female, micropterous; tergite VIII posterior margin with complete row of weak triangular teeth; sternites III–VII each with slender transverse pore plate.

## Related species

Three species are now placed in the genus *Baliothrips* (Bhatti & Mound, 1980; Collins, 2010a; Zhang *et al.*, 2018). Two of these occur in Britain, and they share the unusual character state of setal pair S1 on sternite II arising sub-marginally. Together with *Stenothrips graminum*, these three species possibly represent a European radiation of grass-living species from the genus *Thrips*, in which there is a tendency for reduction of the maxillary palps to a 2-segmented condition. This contrasts with the Asian radiation of grass-living species derived from *Thrips* that are placed in the genera *Stenchaetothrips* and *Fulmekiola*, all of which have 3-segmented palps. *B. dispar* differs from *kroli* in that the head does not project forward of the eyes, campaniform sensilla are present on the metanotum, and there are transverse pore plates on sternites III–VII in the male.

## Biological data

Feeding and breeding on leaves of various species of Poaceae and Cyperaceae, usually in damp areas.

## Distribution data

Widespread in Britain, recorded from Kent to Inverness, and also from Northern Ireland as well as County Dublin in the Republic of Ireland (Morison, 1973b; Mound *et al.*, 1976; O'Connor, 2008). The species is found across the northern Palaearctic, and also in North America (zur Strassen, 2003).

## Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

## Species name

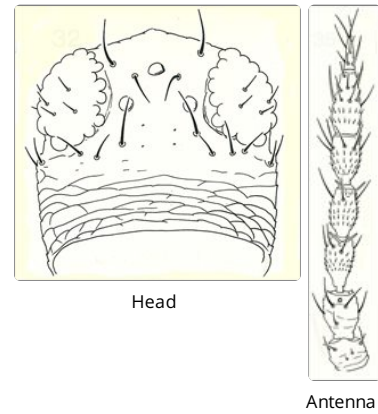
*Baliothrips dispar* (Haliday)

## Original name and synonyms

*Thrips dispar* Haliday, 1836: 449

*Thrips brevicornis* Haliday, 1836: 449

*Thrips sibirica* Trybom, 1896: 622

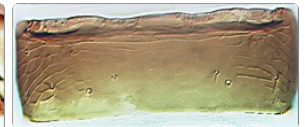


Head

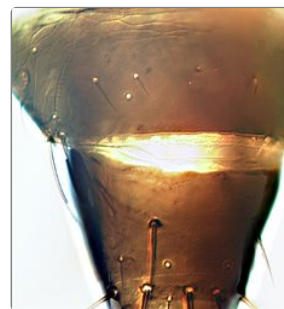
Antenna



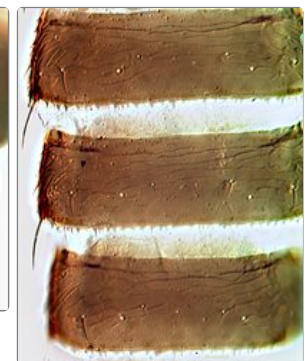
Meso & metanota



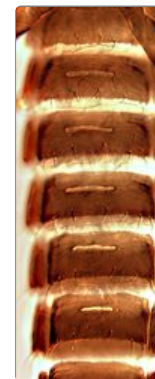
Female tergite VI



Female tergites VIII–IX



Male tergites V–VII



Male sternites

*Baliothrips basalis* Shull, 1909: 224  
*Bagnallia agnessae* Bagnall, 1911: 7  
*Bagnallia halidayi* Bagnall, 1911: 8  
*Baliothrips ustulatus* Priesner, 1919: 128  
*Platythrips badius* John, 1924: 142  
*Baliothrips petzi* Priesner, 1925: 151  
*Baliothrips sibiricus* Priesner, 1925: 151  
*Baliothrips exilis* Bagnall, 1928: 154

## References

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- Collins DW (2010a) Thysanoptera of Great Britain: a revised and updated checklist. *Zootaxa* **2412**: 21–41.
- Morison GD (1973b) Observations and records for some British Thysanoptera. XVII Thripidae, *Baliothrips dispar* (Haliday). *The Entomologist* **106**: 157–164.
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- zur Strassen R (2003) Die terebranten Thysanopteren Europas und des Mittelmeer-Gebietes. *Die Tierwelt Deutschlands* **74**: 1–271.