

# Frankliniella tenuicornis

## Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Female dark brown, tibiae, tarsi and antennal segment III largely yellow; fore wing pale with dark setae. Antennae 8-segmented; segments III-IV each with forked sense cone, VIII scarcely longer than VII. Head slightly longer than wide, projecting weakly in front of eyes; three pairs of ocellar setae present, pair III as long as anterolateral margin of ocellar triangle, arising just anterior to lateral margins; postocular setae pair I present, pair IV as long as diameter of one hind ocellus. Pronotum with 5 pairs of major setae; anteromarginal setae distinctly shorter than anteroangulars, one pair of minor setae present medially between posteromarginal submedian setae; upper surface of fore coxae without microtrichia on sculpture lines. Metanotum with 2 pairs of setae at anterior margin, campaniform sensilla absent. Fore wing with 2 complete rows of veinal setae. Abdominal tergites IV-VIII with paired ctenidia, on VIII anterolateral to spiracle; tergite VIII with no posteromarginal comb of microtrichia but with a few triangular lobes laterally. Sternites III-VII without discal setae.

Male mainly yellow with brown markings; tergite VIII with no posteromarginal comb; sternites III-VII each with transverse pore plate.

## Related species

This is one of the few species of *Frankliniella* that is associated with grasses, and unlike most other members of the genus the head projects forward slightly in front of the compound eyes. Currently 230 species are listed in the genus *Frankliniella*, with up to 130 further names placed into synonymy (Nakahara, 1997). Unlike many of these species, *tenuicornis* is probably native to Eurasia.

## Biological data

Feeding in flowers and on leaves, but breeding only on species of Poaceae, including cereal crops.

## Distribution data

Widespread but locally common in Britain and recorded as far north as northern Scotland (Mound *et al.*, 1976). This species is widespread across the Holarctic; in the Palaearctic from Scandinavia east to at least China (Mirab-balou *et al.*, 2011) and south to Iran, and in the Nearctic south to California and Florida.

## Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

## Species name

*Frankliniella tenuicornis* (Uzel)

## Original name and synonyms

*Physopus tenuicornis* Uzel, 1895: 99

*Physopus tenuicornis* var. *adusta* Uzel, 1895: 99

*Physopus nervosa* Uzel, 1895: 102

*Thrips (Euthrips) maidis* Beach, 1896: 218

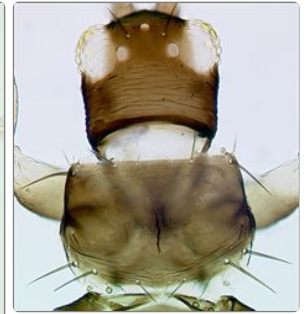
## References

Mirab-balou M, Tong X, Feng J & Chen X (2011) Thrips (Thysanoptera) of China. *Check List* 7: 720-744.

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



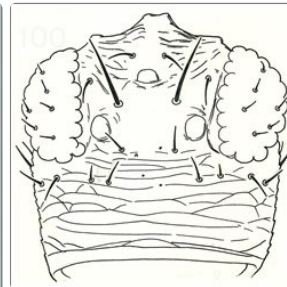
Female



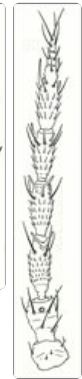
Head & pronotum



Antenna



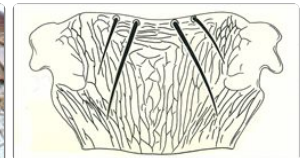
Head



Antenna



Meso & metanota



Metanotum



Tergites VIII-IX



Female sternites VI-VII



Fore wing

Nakahara S (1997) Annotated list of the *Frankliniella* species of the world (Thysanoptera: Thripidae). *Contributions on Entomology, International* 2 (4): 355–389.