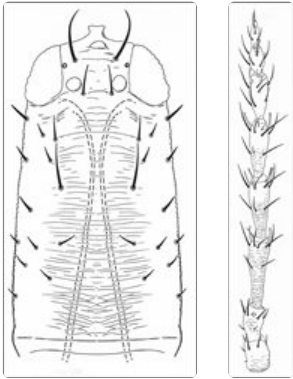


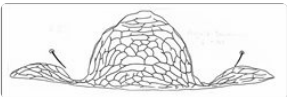
Megalothrips bonannii

Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body, legs and antennae brown to dark brown; antennal segments III–V bicoloured, yellow with apices brown; fore wings pale; major setae pale but setae on tergite IX and anal setae all brown. Antennae 8-segmented, segment III with 2 slender sense cones, IV with 4 similar sense cones; VIII with narrow pedicel. Head elongate, slightly elevated in midline, cheeks weakly convex, with one pair of short stout setae behind eyes; one pair of long setae on anterior margins of ocellar triangle, 3 pairs of shorter setae on vertex (postocellar, postocular and midvertex); maxillary stylets close together medially in head, retracted to compound eyes. Pronotum with no epimeral sutures; epimeral setae as long as antennal segment III with apices bluntly pointed, remaining major setae shorter; prosternal basantra present, mesopresternum transverse. Fore tarsus with no tooth. Fore wing broad, parallel sided, with about 30 duplicated cilia. First abdominal segment, pelta, with slender lateral wings; tube long with prominent setae along lateral margins. Male with no fore tarsal tooth; abdominal tergite VI laterally with pair of drepanae extending beyond segment VII; tube similar to female.



Head of *Megalothrips delmasi*Antenna



Pelta



Tergite IX & tube

Related species

The genus *Megalothrips* comprises eight species; three from North America, three from eastern Asia, and two from Europe. It is closely related to *Megathrips* and *Bacillothrips*, but has much longer maxillary stylets than species in either of those genera. Together with the tropical species-rich genus *Bactrothrips* it seems likely that these represent a single clade, within which recognition of smaller genera has limited phylogenetic significance. *M. bonannii* is closely related to *delmasi*, the other European species of *Megalothrips* (Mound & Palmer, 1983). A large thrips species for Britain, it is slightly smaller than *Bacillothrips nobilis*.

Biological data

Feeding on the spores of unidentified fungi on *Salix* [Salicaceae] and *Pinus* [Pinaceae] in Europe, and breeding on dead branches.

Distribution data

Mostly recorded across central Europe, but also known from Spain and Italy (Marullo & zur Strassen, 1994), this species was taken in Britain on five occasions between 1935 and 1947, all at Wood Walton Fen in Cambridgeshire (Mound *et al.*, 1976).

Family name

PHLAEOTHIRIPIDAE - IDOLOTHRIPINAE

Species name

Megalothrips bonanni Uzel

Original name and synonyms

Megalothrips bonanni Uzel, 1895: 227

References

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

Mound LA & Palmer JM (1983) The generic and tribal classification of spore-feeding Thysanoptera (Phlaeothripidae: Idolothripinae). *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)*. Entomology **46**: 1–174.