

# Aptinothrips rufus

## Distinguishing features

Both sexes wingless. Body and legs yellow, antennal segment VI shaded with brown. Antennae 6-segmented, VI twice as long as V, III-IV each with sense cone simple. Head longer than wide, without ocelli, without long setae. Pronotum weakly trapezoidal, without long setae. Meso and metanota transverse. Prosternal basantra with no setae; ferna almost continuous medially; meso and metafurca without spinula. Tarsi each 1-segmented. Tergites with 2-20 discal setae; tergite IX posteromedian pair of setae short, about 0.2 times as long as lateral pair; tergites and sternites without craspedum; sternites with many discal setae.

Male similar to female but smaller; sternites without pore plates; tergite IX with 2 pairs of stout thorn-like setae.

## Related species

Four species of *Aptinothrips* are recognised, and *A. rufus* has distinctive 6-segmented antennae.

## Biological data

Feeding and breeding on the leaves of grasses (Poaceae), and in New Zealand mainly on introduced European grasses.

## Distribution data

Originally from Europe but widespread in New Zealand, this is one of the most common and widespread thrips in temperate areas throughout the world, including montane areas of tropical countries.

## Family name

THRIPIDAE, THRIPINAE

## Species name

*Aptinothrips rufus* (Haliday)

## Original name and synonyms

*Thrips (Aptinothrips) rufus* Haliday, 1836: 445

*Thrips (Aptinothrips) nitidulus* Haliday, 1836: 446

*Aptinothrips rufa connaticornis* Uzel, 1895: 153

*Uzelliella lubbocki* Bagnall, 1908: 5

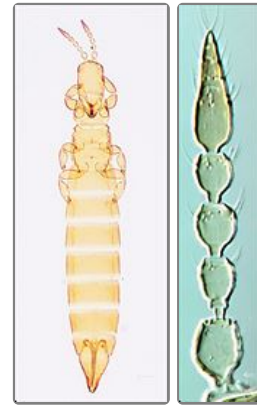
*Aptinothrips intermedius* Priesner, 1920: 52

*Aptinothrips groenlandica* Richter, 1928: 850

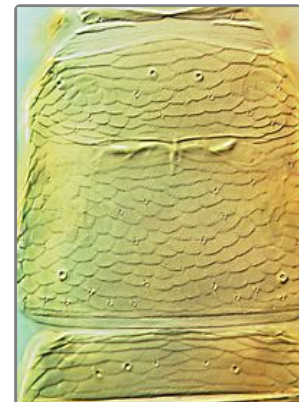
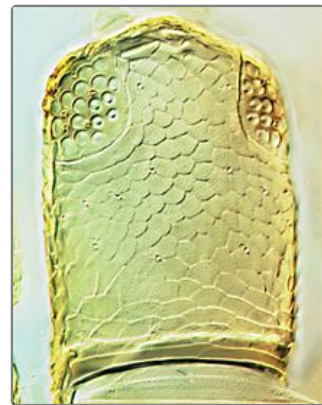
## References

Mound LA & Walker AK (1982) Terebrantia (Insecta: Thysanoptera). *Fauna of New Zealand* 1: 1-113.

Palmer JM (1975) The grass-living genus *Aptinothrips* Haliday (Thysanoptera: Thripidae). *Journal of Entomology* (B) 44 (2): 175-188.



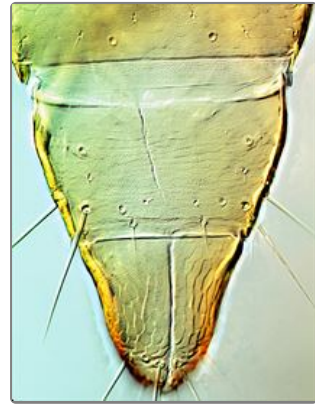
Antenna



Meso & metanotum and abdominal tergite I



Tergites III-IV



Female tergites VIII-X



Sternites VI-VII



Hind tibia & tarsus



Male tergites VIII-IX