

# Desmidothrips walkerae

## Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body and legs mainly brown, abdomen sometimes paler medially; antennal segment III with basal half sometimes yellow; fore wing fuscous, colourless in distal fifth and proximal quarter. Head slightly longer than wide, similar to that of *Aeolothrips*. Antennae 9-segmented; segments III and IV each with a narrow sensorium half as long as its segment and curving around apex, with internal discoidal markings.

Pronotum similar to that of *Aeolothrips*, but 1 pair of posteroangular setae usually slightly stouter than the discal setae. Metanotum reticulate, the reticles with internal markings. Fore wings and abdomen similar to those of *Aeolothrips* in structure, but sternites with at least 2 pairs of discal setae laterally.

Male similar to female but abdomen slender, without terminal claspers or dorsal tubercles.

## Related species

Only two species are placed in this genus, the second one being *inauditus* (Bianchi) from New Caledonia. However, courtesy of Masami Masumoto, an apparently related species has recently been seen from Japan. The genus *Desmidothrips* shares character states particularly with *Desmothrips* from Australia.

## Biological data

Presumably predatory on small arthropods, collected from *Hebe stricta* flowers. Also extracted from native leaf litter and beaten from *Muehlenbeckia*, *Coprosma*, *Leptospermum ericoides*, and *L. scoparium*.

## Distribution data

Known only from New Zealand (Three Kings Islands / ND, AK, CL, BP, GB, TO / NN, SD). Collected from August to February.

## Family name

AEOLOTHRIPIDAE

## Species name

*Desmidothrips walkerae* Mound

## Original name and synonyms

*Desmidothrips walkerae* Mound, 1977: 151

## References

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

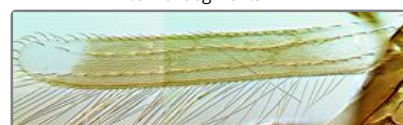
Mound LA, Tree DC & Paris D (2012) OzThrips – Thysanoptera in Australia. <http://www.ozthrips.org/>



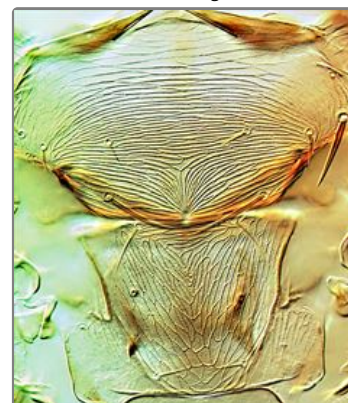
Antenna



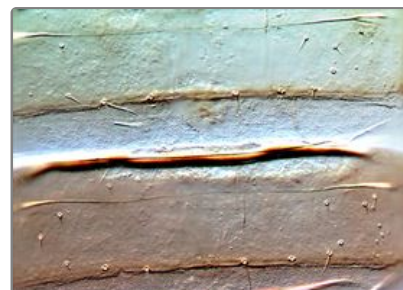
Antennal segments III - IV



Fore wing



Meso & metanotum



Female sternites V-VI