

# Echinothrips americanus

## Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body brown with red internal pigment; tarsi and apices of tibiae yellow, also antennal segments III–IV; fore wings brown but sharply white near base. Head with complex reticulate sculpture; three pairs of ocellar setae present, pair III anterolateral to ocellar triangle; inner margin of eyes with two pairs of stout postocular setae. Antennae 8-segmented, segments III–IV each with a curved simple sense cone. Pronotum strongly reticulate, with two pairs of prominent posteroangular setae. Metanotum reticulate; median setae small, arising near anterior margin. Fore wing pointed, curving forward; first and costal veins with long capitate setae, second vein without setae. Abdominal tergites II–VIII with median paired setae long and close together; tergite lateral thirds with irregular rows of prominent microtrichia; VIII with posteromarginal comb of microtrichia complete. Sternites with marginal setae arising in front of margin.

Male similar to female; sternites III–VIII each with up to 100 small circular pore plates.

## Related species

*Echinothrips* comprises seven species, all from different parts of the Americas (Mound & Marullo, 1996).

## Biological data

This polyphagous species breeds and apparently pupates on leaves, and is recorded as breeding on *Impatiens* (Balsaminaceae), *Euphorbia pulcherrima* (Euphorbiaceae), *Dieffenbachia* and *Syngonium* (Araceae), *Cardamine hirsuta* (Cruciferae), and *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* (Malvaceae).

## Distribution data

Not recorded from New Zealand, but considered a high risk potential invader. Originally from northeastern USA, but now widespread in greenhouses across Europe (Vierbergen *et al.*, 2006), and established in Japan and China, but also recorded from Thailand, Java and northeastern Australia (Mound *et al.*, 2013).

## Family name

THRIPIDAE, THRIPINAE

## Species name

*Echinothrips americanus* Morgan

## Original name and synonyms

*Echinothrips americanus* Morgan, 1913: 14

*Dictyothrips floridensis* Watson, 1919: 2

## References

Mound LA & Marullo R (1996) The Thrips of Central and South America: An Introduction. *Memoirs on Entomology, International* 6: 1–488.

Mound LA, Tree DC & Sartiami D (2013) The greenhouse pest, *Echinothrips americanus* Morgan, recorded for the first time from Australia and Java. *Myrmecia* 49: 54–57.

Vierbergen G, Cean M, Szellér IH, Jenser G, Masten T & Šimala M (2006) Spread of two thrips pests in Europe: *Echinothrips americanus* and



Antenna



Female



Meso & metanotum



Fore wing

*Microcephalothrips abdominalis* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae). *Acta Phytopathol. Entomol. Hungarica* **41**: 287–296.

Zhu L, Shi B, Gong Y, Wang Z, Kang Z & Mirab-balou M (2013) Host preference of *Echinothrips americanus* Morgan for different vegetables. *Acta Ecologica Sinica* **33**: 1607–1614.



Female tergites VI-IX



Male sternites