

# Hoplandrothrips choritus

## Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged, Female brown, tarsi yellow, fore tibiae variable with base darker than yellow apex; major setae pale; fore wings shaded, particularly medially. Head longer than wide, bearing up to 7 stout cheek setae; compound eyes similar in size dorsally and ventrally; postocular setae expanded at apex; maxillary stylets close together medially, retracted to postocular setae. Antennae 8-segmented, segment III with 3 sense cones, IV with 4 sense cones. Pronotum with small, scattered discal setae; anteroangular, midlateral, and epimeral setae long, expanded at apex, epimerals longest; posteromarginal setae shorter, bluntly acute; basantra absent; mesopresternum boat-shaped. Metanotum reticulate medially; median setae usually expanded; 2 or 3 pairs of small setae anterior to these. Fore tarsal tooth well developed, variable in size. Fore wing very weakly constricted medially; major sub-basal setae S1 and S2 expanded at apex, S3 longer, acute. Pelta reticulate, elongate, with small lateral lobes; tergite IX posteromarginal setae blunt, less than half as long as tube; tube slender.

Male similar to female, postocular setae longer, cheek setae stouter; pronotum with anteroangular setae longer; median metanotal area raised, with median setae usually acute, and 3–5 pairs of smaller setae on anterior half; tergite IX posteromarginal setae S2 short, stout; sternite VIII with a transverse pore plate. Large males with pronotum more elongate, less sculptured, bearing a stout median longitudinal apodeme, and with anteroangular and epimeral setae longer; fore femora swollen; fore coxae bearing stout setae.

## Related species

The genus *Hoplandrothrips* comprises about 120 species worldwide, particularly in tropical areas, but with nine species recorded from Europe, 16 from Australia, and four from New Zealand. *H. choritus* is the most commonly collected and widespread *Hoplandrothrips* in New Zealand, and is recognisable from the reticulate sculpture medially on the metanotum.

## Biological data

Apparently associated with *Nothofagus* forest; found on dead twigs and branches, presumably feeding on fungal hyphae. A few specimens taken on dead *Salix* branches.

## Distribution data

Known only from New Zealand (TO, TK / NN, BR, WD, OL, SL / SI).

## Family name

PHLAEOTHRIPIDAE, PHLAEOTHRIPINAE

## Species name

*Hoplandrothrips choritus* Mound & Walker

## Original name and synonyms

*Hoplandrothrips choritus* Mound & Walker, 1986: 56.

## References

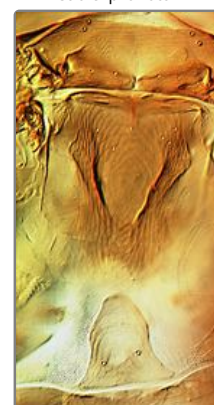
Mound LA & Walker AK (1986) Tubulifera (Insecta: Thysanoptera). *Fauna of New Zealand* 10: 1–140.



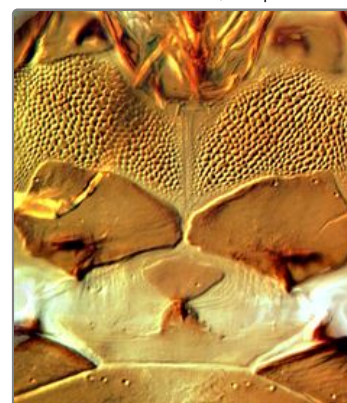
Antenna



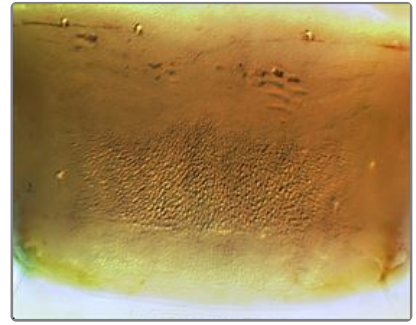
Head & pronotum



Meso & metanotum, and pelta



Thoracic sternites



Male sternite VIII pore plate