

Physemothrips chrysodermus

Distinguishing features

Both sexes apterous. Body, legs and antennal segments I–III yellow, IV–V brown at apex, VI–VIII brown. Antennae 8-segmented; segment I without dorsoapical setae; III with curved simple sense cone, IV with forked sense cone. Head projecting in front of eyes, swollen over base of antennae; ocelli not developed; 3 pairs of ocellar setae, pair III small and close to compound eyes; two pairs of postocular setae, the median pair displaced toward posterior. Maxillary palps 3-segmented. Pronotum wider at posterior than anterior, with one pair of long posteroangular setae, one pair of posteromarginals. Mesonotum and metanotum transverse; metanotal campaniform sensilla absent. Tergites without craspedum, transverse reticulation extends across median area; campaniform sensilla close to posterior margin; tergite IX anterior campaniform sensilla present, medio-dorsal setae small and weak; marginal setae S1 and S2 stout but pale. Sternites without discal setae; median setae on VII at posterior margin.

Male similar to female in colour and structure; tergite IX with 2 pairs of short thorn-like setae medially; sternites III–V with transverse pore plate, small and oval on VI.

Related species

The genus *Physemothrips* includes two species, although *P. hadrus* from islands south of New Zealand is possibly merely a large form of *P. chrysodermus* from Macquarie Island. These species are not known from the main islands of New Zealand, nor from continental Australia or Tasmania.

Biological data

Feeding on the leaves of native grasses (Poaceae).

Distribution data

Known only from the Southern subantarctic islands, Auckland Islands and Macquarie Island.

Family name

THRIPIDAE, THRIPINAE

Species name

Physemothrips chrysodermus Stannard

Original name and synonyms

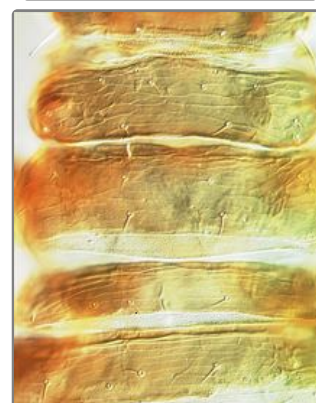
Physemothrips chrysodermus Stannard, 1963: 934

References

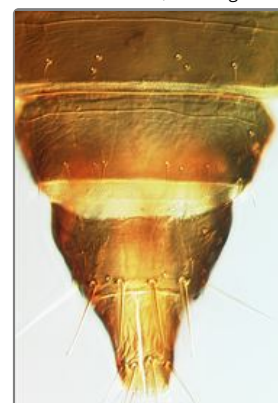
Mound LA & Walker AK (1982) Terebrantia (Insecta: Thysanoptera). *Fauna of New Zealand* 1: 1–113.
Stannard LJ (1963) Insects of Macquarie Island. Thysanoptera: Thripidae. *Pacific Insects* 4: 933–936.



Antenna



Meso & metanotum, and tergites I-II



Tergites VII-X