

# *Psalidothrips moeone*

## Distinguishing features

Female fully winged or apterous. Body pale brown; tarsi, tibiae, tergite IX, and tube yellow; fore wings weakly shaded; major setae pale. Head strongly constricted behind eyes into an apodeme; ocelli present; postocular setae finely acute, about as long as distance between their bases; maxillary stylets about one-third of head width apart, retracted about halfway to postocular setae, 'V'-shaped, with a weak maxillary bridge. Antennal segment III with 1 sense cone (plus 1 small inner cone), segment IV with 2 sense cones. Pronotum lacking sculpture; setae finely acute; prosternal basantra absent. Metanotum weakly sculptured laterally, no sculpture medially, median setae small. Fore tarsal tooth absent. Fore wings lacking duplicated cilia; sub-basal setae acute, subequal. Pelta faintly sculptured, without lateral lobes; tergites II–VII each with 1 pair of wing-retaining setae, on II almost as small as median setae, on III–VII weakly sigmoid; tergite IX posteromarginal setae S1 finely acute, more than half as long as tube; sternites with a row of up to 4 pairs of discal setae. Female aptera with antennal segment III often lacking small inner sense cone; mesopresternum eroded; mesonotum and metanotum broader; pelta occasionally bearing small lateral lobes, often eroded on posterior margin. Male aptera similar to female, ocelli absent; fore tarsal tooth present; tergite IX posteromarginal setae S2 short, stout; sternite VIII with transverse pore plate.

## Related species

The genus *Psalidothrips* comprises 28 described species, all from tropical countries. However, there is a series of undescribed species in Australia, and the three members of the genus recorded from New Zealand are closely related to these Australian species. *P. moeone* is unusual in having a particularly strong apodeme behind the compound eyes.

## Biological data

This species lives in leaf litter where it presumably feeds on fungal hyphae.

## Distribution data

Known only from New Zealand (AK, BP, GB, HB / SD, BR, WD).

## Family name

PHLAEOTHIRIPIDAE, PHLAEOTHIRIPINAE

## Species name

*Psalidothrips moeone* Mound & Walker

## Original name and synonyms

*Psalidothrips moeone* Mound & Walker, 1986: 74

## References

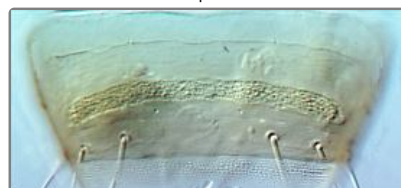
Mound LA & Walker AK (1986) Tubulifera (Insecta: Thysanoptera). *Fauna of New Zealand* **10**: 1–140.



Antenna



Head & pronotum



Male sternite VIII pore plate