

Thrips imaginis

Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Female colour variable, sometimes yellow, frequently bicoloured with abdomen brown and head and thorax paler; antennal segments I, III and base of IV yellow; legs yellow; fore wings pale. Antennae 7-segmented. Head transverse, ocellar setae III arise within triangle close to first ocellus. Pronotum with 4–5 posteromarginal setae, external postero-angular seta shorter than inner seta. Metanotum irregularly reticulate medially, median setae well behind anterior margin, campaniform sensilla present. Fore wing first vein with 3 or 4 setae on distal half. Abdominal tergite II with 3 lateral setae; tergite VIII comb represented by a few teeth laterally. Sternites III–VII with 15–25 discal setae, pleurotergites with 1–3 discal setae.

Male yellow; pleurotergites without discal setae; tergite VIII with no comb, IX with 4 setae arranged in transverse row.

Related species

The genus *Thrips* includes 13 species from New Zealand, out of a total of 280 species worldwide (Mound & Masumoto, 2005). Many of these species have the antennae clearly 7-segmented, whereas others have 8 segments. All members of *Thrips* genus have paired ctenidia on the tergites, and on tergite VIII these are postero-mesad to the spiracles, and they also lack ocellar setae pair I in front of the first ocellus. In contrast, *Frankliniella* species have ctenidia on tergite VIII antero-lateral to the spiracles, and a pair of setae is always present in front of the first ocellus. *T. imaginis* is very similar to *T. safrus* in having unusually large numbers of discal setae on the sternites, but it also has discal setae on the pleurotergites whereas these are absent in *safrus*.

Biological data

Feeding and breeding in the flowers of many unrelated plant species, this thrips was considered a serious pest of pome fruits in Australia in the 1930s, but is rarely of great significance on any crops in recent years.

Distribution data

This species has been collected infrequently in New Zealand (SD, NN). Individuals are presumably wind-dispersed irregularly from Australia, but large populations fail to develop. It is endemic and widespread across southern Australia and Tasmania, and has been recorded from Lord Howe Island and New Caledonia.

Family name

THRIPIDAE, THRIPINAE

Species name

Thrips imaginis Bagnall

Original name and synonyms

Thrips imaginis Bagnall, 1926: 111

Thrips imaginis apicalis Bagnall, 1926: 111

Thrips fortis Bagnall, 1926: 109

Thrips shakespearei Girault, 1927: 1

Neophysopus io Girault, 1927: 1



Antenna



Meso & metanotum

Neophysopus aureolus Girault, 1928: 3

Aptinothrips apertus Kelly & Mayne, 1934: 33

References

Mound LA & Masumoto M (2005) The genus *Thrips* (Thysanoptera, Thripidae) in Australia, New Caledonia and New Zealand. *Zootaxa* 1020: 1–64.

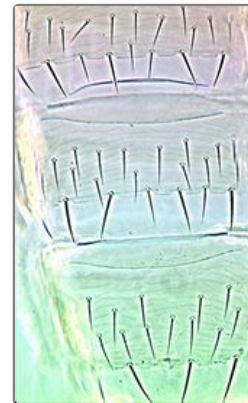
Mound LA, Tree DC & Paris D (2012) OzThrips – Thysanoptera in Australia.

<http://www.ozthrips.org/>

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



Pleurotergites



Female sternites V-VII