

Thrips nigropilosus

Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged, but female also with wings variously reduced in length. Body and legs largely yellow, light brown shadings on thorax and medially on tergites I-VI; major setae brown; antennal segment I yellow, II light brown, III-VII brown; fore wings pale with very faint shading on clavus and at veinal fork. Antennae 7-segmented. Head with ocellar setae pair III stout, arising lateral to first ocellus; postocular setae I slightly longer than III, setae II minute. Pronotum with weak transverse lines of sculpture, 16-20 discal setae all relatively long, also anteromarginal, antero-angular, midlateral and posteromarginal setae S1 unusually long and dark. Mesonotum with anterior campaniform sensilla present or absent. Metanotum with irregular reticulation; median setae arising behind anterior margin, campaniform sensilla present or absent. Fore wing first vein (when present) with 3 setae on distal half, wings variably reduced in length, sometimes no longer than width of pterothorax. Tergite II with 3 lateral marginal setae; tergites II-VII with lines of sculpture between median setal pair, these setae variable in length but usually more than half as long as their tergite; tergite VIII with complete comb of slender microtrichia. Sternites and pleurotergites without discal setae, pleurotergal sculpture lines without microtrichia. Male similar to female but smaller; sternites III-VII with transverse pore plate.

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. nigropilosus* is unusual within this genus in having the wings variable in length; the median setae on the tergites are also unusually long and dark.

Biological data

Feeding and breeding on the young leaves and in flowers of many plants, this species has been recorded in Europe from *Achillea*, *Chrysanthemum*, *Lactuca*, and *Tanacetum* [Asteraceae]. In Kenya it has been considered a pest of cultivated *Pyrethrum* crops.

Distribution data

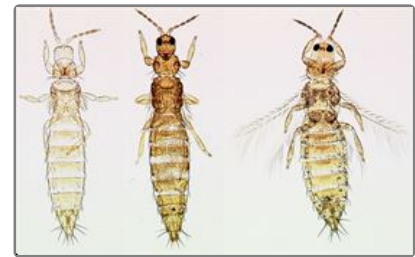
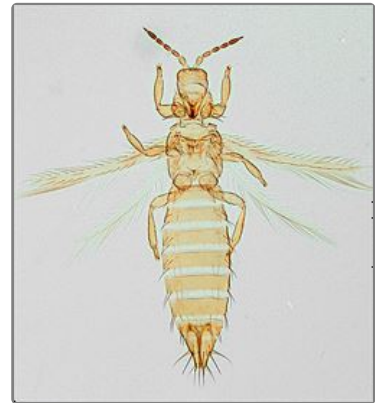
In New Zealand this species has been collected only in the South Island (NN, BR, MC, CO, SL). It is widespread in temperate areas around the world, including montane areas in Africa. Males are usually rare, but have been recorded from Europe and North America.

Family name

THRIPIDAE, THRIPINAE

Species name

Thrips nigropilosus Uzel



Female microptera, hemimacroptera and macroptera



Female tergites I-IV

Original name and synonyms

Thrips nigropilosus Uzel, 1895: 198

Thrips laevior Uzel, 1895:199

Thrips lactucae Beach, 1896: 224

Thrips umbratus Priesner, 1920: 59

Thrips pilosissima Priesner, 1922: 92

References

Moritz G, Mound LA, Morris DC & Goldarazena A (2004) Pest thrips of the world – visual and molecular identification of pest thrips. CD-ROM published by CBIT Brisbane.

<http://www.cbit.uq.edu.au/software/pestthrips/default.htm>

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.



Tergites VII-IX



Meso & metanotum, and tergites I-IV