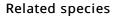
Thrips vulgatissimus

Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Female brown, tarsi and antennal segment III yellow; fore wings pale. Antennae 8-segmented, III–IV constricted to distinct apical neck. Head as wide as long, cheeks convex, ocellar setae pair III arising on anterior margins of ocellar triangle and slightly longer than side of triangle; postocular setae pairs I & III shorter than ocellar setae pair III, pair II minute. Pronotum posterior margin with 3 (or 4) pairs of setae. Metanotum with parallel lines of sculpture medially converging at posterior, median setae arising near anterior margin; campaniform sensilla present. Fore wing first vein with 3 setae on distal half, second vein with complete row of about 14 setae. Tergite II with 3 lateral marginal setae; posterior margin of VIII with complete comb of long microtrichia; pleurotergites with 3 or 4 discal setae. Sternite II with few discal setae, III–VII with 15–20 discal setae in an irregular double row.

Male brown, smaller than female; tergite VIII without posteromarginal comb; sternites III–VII with broadly transverse pore plate in front of discal setae.



There are 13 species of the genus *Thrips* recorded 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. The European species *T. vulgatissimus* is similar in general appearance to the New Zealand flower thrips, *T. obscuratus*, but differs from that as well as the other endemic New Zealand species of genus *Thrips* in having only two (rather than three) pairs of setae on the posterior margin of the second abdominal sternite. Moreover, the fore wing of *T. obscuratus* has two complete rows of veinal setae.

Biological data

This polyphagous species feeds and breeds in the flowers of various species, but commonly in white flowers of Caryophyllaceae.

Distribution data

Recorded infrequently in New Zealand (AK, HB, MC) and southern Australia, but widespread in Europe and North America.

Family name

THRIPIDAE, THRIPINAE

Species name

Thrips vulgatissimus Haliday

Original name and synonyms

Thrips vulgatissimus Haliday, 1836: 447 *Physopus pallipennis* Uzel, 1895: 110 *Taeniothrips lemanis* Treherne, 1924: 87



Antenna







Meso & metanotum

Taeniothrips vulgatissimus f. gracilis Priesner, 1926: 298
Taeniothrips vulgatissimus f. atricornis Priesner, 1926: 298
Taeniothrips americanus Moulton, 1929: 130
Physothrips gentianae Bagnall, 1933: 653
Taeniothrips tahvanus Hukkinen, 1936: 139

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) Oz Thrips – Thysanoptera in Australia. http://www.ozthrips.org/

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

zur Strassen R (2003) Die terebranten Thysanopteren Europas und des Mittelmeer-Gebietes. *Die Tierwelt Deutschlands* **74**: 1–271.



Pleurotergites



Tergite VIII