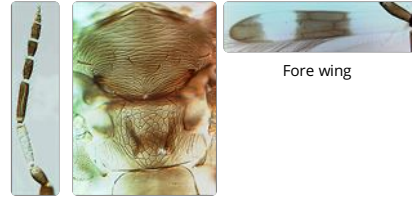


# Desmothrips tenuicornis



## Distinguishing features

Female macropterous. Body and legs brown; antennal segment III yellow with brown ring at apex, IV sometimes yellow at base, V–IX brown; fore wing brown at extreme base but clavus with apex pale, median brown area long, distal transverse pale area almost parallel-sided with pale costal vein. Head with postocular region as long as eye length; distal maxillary palp segment



Antenna Meso & metanotum

Fore wing

subdivided. Antennae 9-segmented, III–IV with sensorium curving around apex, weakly sinuate and extending to basal third of segment, without internal markings. Mesonotum with 2 pairs of accessory setae medially. Metanotal reticles with internal dot-like markings. Abdominal tergite I with weak transverse lines medially; trichobothria on X no larger than base of major setae on X. Sternites with 4 pairs of relatively small marginal setae, 6 to 8 pairs of discal setae mainly laterally but sometimes extending medially.

Male similar to female but smaller. Abdominal tergite I with two longitudinal ridges. Sternites with discal setae, at least laterally; VIII with about 14 discal setae in two irregular rows, IX with 3 or 4 discal setae.

## Related species

The genus *Desmothrips* is known only from Australia, with 18 described species (Pereyra & Mound, 2010). *D. tenuicornis* is a member of the *D. australis* complex, but has antennal segment III more extensively yellow with just the extreme apex dark as in *Aeolothrips fasciatus*.

## Biological data

Adults of both sexes have been found, often with larvae, in the flowers of many different plants, with no obvious specificity.

## Distribution data

Widespread in eastern Australia between Adelaide and Charters Towers, but apparently not common; also recorded from Alice Springs, from Kakadu, and from Western Australia.

## Family name

AEOLOTHRIPIDAE

## Species name

*Desmothrips tenuicornis* (Bagnall)

## Original name and synonyms

*Orothrips tenuicornis* Bagnall, 1916: 397

*Desmothrips davidsoni* Morison, 1930: 449

## References

Mound LA (1967) A taxonomic revision of the Australian Aeolothripidae (Thysanoptera). *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History)*. *Entomology*20: 41–74.

Pereyra V & Mound LA (2010) Phylogenetic relationships within the genus *Desmothrips* (Thysanoptera, Aeolothripidae), an Australian genus of facultative flower-living predators. *Systematic Entomology*35: 306–317.