

# Desmothrips australis

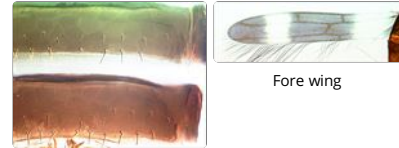


## Distinguishing features

Female macropterous. Body and legs brown; antennal segment III yellow in basal half or two-thirds but brown distally, IV–IX brown; fore wing brown at extreme base but clavus largely pale, with long median brown area and two clear transverse bands; distal transverse band almost parallel-sided with pale costal vein. Head with postocular region as long as eye length; distal maxillary palp segment subdivided. Antennae 9-segmented, III–IV with sensorium curving at or around apex, extending to basal half or basal third of segment, without internal markings. Mesonotum with 3 or 4 pairs of accessory setae medially. Metanotum reticulate, with internal dot-like markings.



Female      Antenna      Meso & metanotum



Female sternites VI–VII

Fore wing

Abdominal tergite I with faint transverse lines laterally; trichobothria on X no larger than base of major setae on X. Sternites with 4 pairs of marginal setae and 6 to 8 pairs of discal setae laterally but usually none medially; VII with 2 pairs of accessory setae scarcely distinguished from marginal setae (thus apparently 6 pairs of marginal setae). Male similar to female but smaller. Abdominal tergite I with two longitudinal ridges. Sternites with discal setae, at least laterally; VIII–IX with each about 20 discal setae.

## Related species

The genus *Desmothrips* is known only from Australia, with 18 described species (Pereyra & Mound, 2010). *D. australis* appears to be the most common member of a species complex in the South of the continent. It is distinguished because antennal segment III is extensively shaded brown in the apical third although clear yellow basally.

## 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

Widely distributed across southern Australia, from the south west of Western Australia to southeastern Queensland.

## Family name

AEOLOTHRIPIDAE

## Species name

*Desmothrips australis* (Bagnall)

## Original name and synonyms

*Orothrips australis* Bagnall, 1914: 287

*Archaeolothrips fontis* Bagnall, 1924: 627

## 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.

