

Selenothrips rubrocinctus



Distinguishing features

Female macropterous; body blackish-brown, tarsi and apices of tibiae yellow, antennal segments III–IV yellow at base and apex; fore wing dark brown. Antennae 8-segmented, III–IV with long forked sensorium, III–V with two long dorsal setae, sensorium on VI extending beyond antennal apex. Head with strongly constricted basal neck. pronotum transversely striate. Metanotum with prominent triangle enclosing transverse lines of sculpture. Fore wing with long costal setae, first and second veins with almost complete setal row. Median tergal setae long; VIII with many discal microtrichia, posteromarginal comb long and regular.

Male tergite IX with 3 pairs of prominent thorn-like setae; sternites III–VII with small oval pore plate near anterior margin.



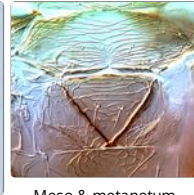
Male and female



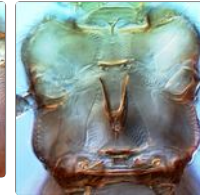
Head, pronotum and pterothorax



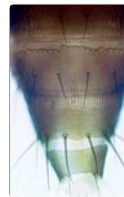
Antenna



Meso & metanotum



Metathoracic V-shaped furca



Tergites VII-X



Forewing

Related species

The very dark forewings distinguish this species from most other thrips, and it is the only species recognised in the genus *Selenothrips*. A second species, *glabratus* Priesner that is known only from Africa, is now placed in its own genus, *Xestothrips*.

Biological data

Adults, larvae and pupae occur together on leaves, and the species breeds on a wide range of unrelated plants that have hard leaves, including *Cacao*, *Persea* and *Mangifera*. Populations increase particularly when plants are water stressed (Fennah, 1965).

Distribution data

Pantropical, sometimes extending into subtropical areas such as Florida.

Family name

THRIPIDAE, PANCHAETOTHRIPINAE

Species name

Selenothrips rubrocinctus (Giard)

Original name and synonyms

Physopus rubrocincta Giard, 1901: 263

Heliothrips (*Selenothrips*) *decolor* Karny, 1911: 179

Heliothrips (*Selenothrips*) *mendax* Schmutz, 1913: 994

Brachyurothrips indicus Bagnall, 1926: 98.

References

ThripsWiki (2020) *Thrips Wiki-providing information on the World's thrips*. Available from: http://thrips.info/wiki/Main_Page [accessed 28.viii.2019].

Wilson TH (1975) A monograph of the subfamily Panchaetothripinae (Thysanoptera: Thripidae). *Memoirs of the American Entomological Institute* **23**: 1–354.

