

Parthenothrips dracaenae



Distinguishing features

Female macropterous; body and legs brown, tibiae and tarsi yellow, also antennal segments III-V; fore wing with prominent reticulate pattern, dark brown area where first vein fuses to costa, both veins bearing a few long setae. Antennae 7-segmented, III and IV with simple sensorium. Head constricted at basal neck, dorsal setae broad but translucent. Pronotum with one pair of prominent posteroangular setae, also one pair of anteromarginals and one pair of posteromarginals, these setae flattened with prominent rhachis, as are major setae on fore wing. Metanotal median setae near posterior margin. Tergites and sternites with broad craspedum; tergites with no sculpture medially, median setae minute. Male tergite IX with no strong setae; sternites IV or V-VII with large pore plate.



Female



Head & thorax Antenna



Fore wing



Fore wing costal seta



Tergites VII-VIII

Related species

Only one species is known in this genus, and the broad reticulate fore wings with broadly flattened setae are unique amongst Thripidae.

Biological data

Adults and larvae usually live on mature leaves rather than young leaves. The species breeds on many different plant species, particularly *Kentia* palms, but other records include plants as diverse as *Ficus* species (Moraceae) and *Emilia sonchifolia* (Asteraceae), also the fern *Adiantum formosum*.

Distribution data

Widespread around world, and in temperate countries common on plants in domestic environments. The area of origin is not known, but is equally likely to have been Africa or Australia.

Family name

THRIPIDAE, PANCHAETOTHRIPINAE

Species name

Parthenothrips dracaenae (Heeger)

Original name and synonyms

Heliothrips dracaenae Heeger, 1854: 365

Parthenothrips dracaenae var. *concolor* Uzel, 1895: 172.

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.