

Chirothrips frontalis



Distinguishing features

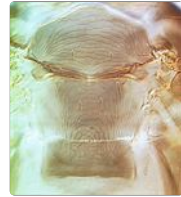
Female macroptera. Body brown, tarsi and antennal segment III paler; fore wings light brown. Antennae 8-segmented; segment II with external margin prolonged and bearing a terminal seta-like sensorium; III-IV each with stout simple sense cone. Head small, greatly prolonged in front of eyes; 3 pairs of ocellar setae present, pair III anterolateral to fore ocellus. Pronotum trapezoidal, with 2 pairs of posteroangular setae. Metanotum reticulate, sculpture forming arches around posterior midpoint; median setae slightly smaller than lateral pair. Prosternal ferna divided medially; basantra rugose, triangular; prospinasternum transverse, narrow. Mesothoracic sternopleural sutures complete; meta pre-episternum reduced, triangular, not broadly band-like. Meso and metasternal furca with well-developed lateral flanges, without spinula. Fore wing pointed at apex; first vein with 2 setae on distal half, second vein with 4 setae. Tergites with many transverse sculpture lines, posterior margins with entire craspedum; ovipositor with distinct teeth. Sternites with 3 pairs of marginal setae, posterior margins without craspedum. Male not known in Australia.



Female



Antenna, head & pronotum



Meso & metanotum



Sternite

Related species

zur Strassen (1960) provided identification keys to over 50 species of *Chirothrips*, but Bhatti (1990) created six new genera for species placed originally in this genus. One of these six, *Arorathrips*, is represented in Australia. *Chirothrips* appears to be a genus of Holarctic species, whereas *Arorathrips* is from the New World. *C. frontalis* belongs to a group of New World species in which the head is greatly prolonged in front of the eyes.

Biological data

Breeding and pupating within individual florets of various Poaceae with no recorded specificity.

Distribution data

Recorded from Argentina, South and East Africa, and Australia (South Australia, Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Queensland).

Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

Species name

Chirothrips frontalis Williams

Original name and synonyms

Chirothrips frontalis Williams, 1914: 51

Chirothrips sulcatus John, 1922: 345.

References

Bhatti JS (1990) On some genera related to *Chirothrips* (Insecta: Terebrantia: Thripidae). *Zoology (Journal of Pure and Applied Zoology)* 2: 193–200.

Mound LA & Palmer JM (1972) Grass-flower infesting thrips of the genus *Chirothrips* Haliday in Australia. *Journal of the Australian entomological Society* 11: 332–339.

Nakahara S & Foottit RG (2012) Review of *Chirothrips* and related genera (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) of the Americas,

with descriptions of one new genus and four new species. *Zootaxa* 3251: 1–29.

zur Strassen R (1960) Key to and catalogue of the known species of *Chirothrips* Haliday, 1836 (Thysanoptera: Thripidae). *Journal of the entomological Society of southern Africa* 23: 144–176.