

Odontothripiella sica



Distinguishing features

Female macroptera. Body brown to dark brown, tarsi and antennal segment III yellow, IV paler than V; fore wings light brown with base sharply paler. Antennae 8-segmented; segment I with paired dorso-apical setae; segments III–IV with apex forming short neck, sense cone forked; V with sense cone base circular, VI with sensorium base expanded. Head wider than



Male tergites VIII–IX

long; 3 pairs of ocellar setae present; pair III anterior to hind ocelli, shorter than side of ocellar triangle; postocular setae small, close to posterior margin of eyes. Pronotum with 1 pair of long posteroangular setae; posterior margin with 4 pairs of setae. Fore tibia with two recurved tubercles at apex, ventrally and laterally. Metanotum reticulate, campaniform sensilla present; median setae arise at anterior margin. Mesofurca with spinula. Fore wing first and second veins with complete row of setae; clavus with 5 veinal setae and one discal seta. Tergites without sculpture medially; VIII with group of irregular microtrichia anterior to spiracle, posteromarginal comb represented by a few microtrichia laterally. Sternites without discal setae, VII with median setae arising in front of margin.

Male macroptera. Similar to female but smaller; mid tibia with claw at apex; tergites with sculpture lines medially, IX posterior margin with pair of stout, curved, setiform processes; sternites without pore plates, VI–VII with small lobe medially on posterior margin.

Related species

The females of *O. sica* cannot be distinguished from females of several other species in this genus including *O. australis*, but the males have a pair of distinctive, slightly curved processes on the ninth tergite, and sternites VI–VII bear a small and translucent lobe on the posterior margin that is difficult to discern. *Odontothripiella* is an Australian genus that currently includes 18 described species, with several more undescribed species also known. The genus shares many character states with *Megalurothrips*, in particular the presence of a pair of small setae dorsally at the apical margin of the first antennal segment.

Biological data

Feeding and breeding in the flowers of various Fabaceae, including *Dylwinia ericifolia*, *Indigofera australis*, and *Pultenaea stipularis*.

Distribution data

Known only from Australia, New South Wales.

Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

Species name

Odontothripiella sica Pitkin

Original name and synonyms

Odontothripiella sica Pitkin, 1972: 286.

References

Pitkin BR (1972) A revision of the Australian genus *Odontothripiella* Bagnall, with descriptions of fourteen new species (Thysanoptera: Thripidae). *Journal of the Australian Entomological Society* 11: 265–289.