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Thrips pallisetis

Distinguishing features

Female macroptera. Body brown, tibiae yellow with light brown shadings; antennal segment III yellow; fore wings weakly shaded. Antennae 7-segmented. Head with ocellar setae III arising outside triangle. Pronotum with weak transverse markings, posterior sub-marginal apodeme present, postero-angular setae long. Metanotum with irregular elongate reticulation, median setae at anterior margin, campaniform sensilla present. Fore wing first vein with setal row complete. Abdominal tergite II with 4 lateral margin setae; tergite VIII with ctenidia terminating anterior to setae S3, posteromarginal comb present laterally. Sternites and pleurotergites with no discal setae. Male not known.

Related species

There are 33 species of *Thrips* genus known from Australia (Mound & Masumoto, 2005), out of a total of 296 species worldwide (ThripsWiki, 2020). Many of these species have the antennae clearly 7-segmented, whereas others have 8 segments. Some species have two complete rows of setae on the fore wing veins, whereas others have the setal row on the first vein more



or less widely interrupted. Moreover, some species have sternal discal setae, whereas other species have only marginal setae on the sternites. Despite this variation, all members of *Thrips* genus have paired ctenidia on the tergites, and on tergite VIII these are postero-mesad to the spiracles, and they also lack ocellar setae pair I in front of the first ocellus. In contrast, *Frankliniella* species have ctenidia on tergite VIII antero-lateral to the spiracles, and a pair of setae is always present in front of the first ocellus. The position of the ctenidia on tergite VIII indicates that *T. pallisetis* is a member of the Australian endemic *T. seticollis* group. The metanotum is similar in structure to *T. excaelatus*, but the forewing first vein has a complete row of setae. This species remains known only from four females, taken at two sites in central Australia.

Biological data

Presumably feeding and breeding in flowers, but with no identified host plant.

Distribution data

Known only from central Australia (South Australia and New South Wales).

Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

Species name

Thrips pallisetis Sakimura

Original name and synonyms

Thrips (Isothrips) pallisetis Sakimura, 1969: 71.

References

Mound LA & Masumoto M (2005) The genus *Thrips* (Thysanoptera, Thripidae) in Australia, New Caledonia and New Zealand. *Zootaxa*1020: 1–64. http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/2005f/zt01020p064.pdf

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