

# Thrips vitticornis



## Distinguishing features

Female macroptera. Body brown, tarsi and antennal segment III and base of IV yellow; fore wing uniformly brown. Antennae 8-segmented, VII–VIII short. Head wider than long, ocellar setae pair III longer than side of ocellar triangle, arising outside lateral margins of triangle; postocular setae very small. Pronotum with 2 pairs of long postero-angular setae, posterior margin with 3 pairs of small setae. Metanotum with very closely spaced longitudinal lines medially and with finer lines between these major lines; median setae long, arising at anterior margin; campaniform sensilla present. Fore wing first vein with 3–8 setae on distal half, second vein with about 14 setae; clavus with 5 marginal setae. Tergite II with 4 lateral marginal setae; posterior margin of tergite VIII with comb absent medially but represented by a few irregular microtrichia laterally. Sternite II with 1–2 discal setae, III–VII with discal setae varying from 10–14 in one transverse row; pleurotergites without discal setae.

Male macroptera. Body brown, smaller than female; tergite VIII without posteromarginal comb; sternites III–VII with broad pore plate.



Female                      Female                      Antenna



Head & pronotum      Meso & metanotum      Tergites VIII–IX



Sternites IV–VII

## Related species

There are 33 species of *Thrips* genus known from Australia, out of a total of 280 species worldwide (Mound & Masumoto, 2005). 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 closely striate metanotal sculpture of *T. vitticornis* suggests that it might be related to *T. rhabdotus* from the Pacific Region (see Palmer, 1992). However, in *T. vitticornis* the number of setae on the distal half of the first vein is less and also variable.

## Biological data

Feeding and breeding in the flowers of *Calopogonium* sp. [Fabaceae].

## Distribution data

India to the Pacific Islands, also Australia (Northern Territory and Torres Straits Islands).

## Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

## Species name

*Thrips vitticornis* (Karny)

## Original name and synonyms

*Physothrips vitticornis* Karny, 1922: 103

*Taeniothrips canavaliae* Moulton, 1928: 295.

## References

Mound LA & Masumoto M (2005) The genus *Thrips* (Thysanoptera, Thripidae) in Australia, New Caledonia and New

