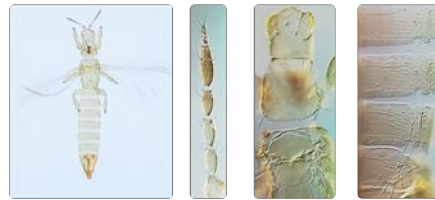


# Aliceathrips australiensis



## Distinguishing features

Female macroptera. Body and legs yellow; fore wing mainly pale; antennal segment I pale, II light brown, III-V yellow with apex light brown, VI variable from yellow to brown, VII-VIII brown. Antennae 8-segmented, I with no dorso-apical setae, sense cone simple on III-IV. Head projecting conically in front of eyes, cheeks almost parallel; compound eyes with 5 pigmented facets; ocellar setae I present, III 1.5 times as long as an ocellus and arising between anterior margins of posterior ocelli; mouth cone large, maxillary palps 2-segmented. Pronotum slightly wider at posterior than anterior; posteroangular inner setal pair shorter than outer pair. Prosternal basantra with no setae; ferna continuous medially; meso and metafurca without spinula. Mesonotal anterior campaniform sensilla present. Metanotal sculpture weak; median setae near anterior margin, closer to lateral pair than to each other; no campaniform sensilla. Fore wing slender, first vein with 3 widely spaced setae on distal half; second vein with few widely spaced setae; clavus with 4-5 veinal setae, no discal seta. Tergites with weak transverse sculpture medially; II-VIII with craspedum present, campaniform sensilla near posterior margin; tergite IX median dorsal setae moderately stout, extending just beyond posterior margin, posterior marginal pair I shorter than pair II; X with median split incomplete. Sternites III-VII with 4-10 discal setae, posterior margin with no craspedum; sternite II with 2 pairs of marginal setae, III-VII with 3 pairs, all arising at margin on VII. Male macroptera smaller and paler than female; tergite IX with pair of long well-separated processes; sternites III-VII with transverse pore plate on antecostal area.



Female

Antenna Head & thorax Tergites V-VIII



Male tergites VIII-IX

## Related species

The genus *Aliceathrips* comprises five species, all from the northern half of Australia. *A. australiensis* and its two synonyms were each described from single, severely damaged, individuals. For several years the species was placed incorrectly in *Bolacothrips*, but the abdominal tergites have no ctenidia. The females of this species are similar in structure to those of several others in the genus, and *A. australiensis* may eventually prove to be a complex of species across northern Australia.

## Biological data

Feeding and breeding on the leaves of native grasses [Poaceae].

## Distribution data

Known only from Australia where is is widespread but local: northern New South Wales, Queensland, Northern Territory, north of Western Australia.

## Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

## Species name

*Aliceathrips australiensis* (Girault)

## Original name and synonyms

*Limothrips australiensis* Girault, 1928: 3

*Pezothrips aureus* Girault, 1929: 2

*Limothrips formosus* Girault, 1929: 2.

## References

Mound LA (2011b) Grass-dependent Thysanoptera of the family Thripidae from Australia. *Zootaxa* 3064 : 1-40.

<http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/2011/f/zt03064p040.pdf>

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