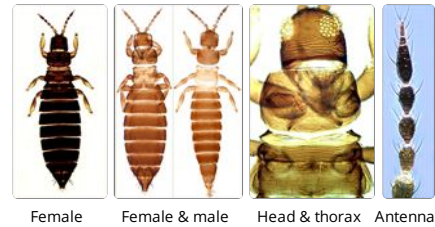


Apterothrips apteris

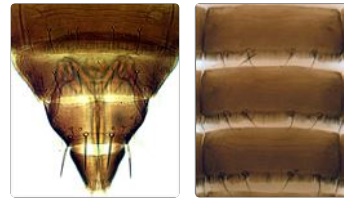


Distinguishing features

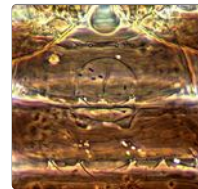
Female aptera. Body, legs and antennae dark brown. Antennae 8-segmented, VI with partial, oblique suture producing an apparent 9-segmented condition; III-IV with simple sense cone. Head weakly reticulate, with no ocelli; ocellar setae III as long as diameter of 3 eye facets. Pronotum almost without sculpture medially, with no long setae. Meso and metanota transverse. Prosternal basantra with no setae; ferna continuous medially; meso and metafurca without spinula. Tergites with several lines of sculpture medially; posterior margin of I-VIII with well-developed craspedum; posteroangular setal pair arising in front of margin. Sternites III-VI with well-developed craspedum consisting of 5 lobes; VII with median craspedum lobe not developed, median pair of setae arising in front of margin. Male aptera. Smaller and paler than female; sternite III antecostal region with transverse pore area opening into a large vesicle within the third abdominal segment; tergite VIII with 2 pairs of stout thorn-like setae.



Female Female & male Head & thorax Antenna



Female tergites VII-X Abdominal sternites IV-VI



Male glandular opening between sternites II and III

Related species

Only two species are recognised in the genus *Apterothrips*. The second species, *A. secticornis*, has seven lobes to each sternal craspedum and is probably restricted to the northern hemisphere. The head and pronotum are similar to those of *Anaphothrips* species, but the lobed craspeda on the sternites are characteristic.

Biological data

Feeding and breeding on leaves of various plants, including *Erigeron* [Asteraceae], *Medicago sativa* [Fabaceae], *Allium* [Liliaceae], grasses [Poaceae].

Distribution data

Widespread south of California along western coast of South America; also Falkland Islands, New Zealand, Western Australia and Tasmania.

Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

Species name

Apterothrips apteris (Daniel)

Original name and synonyms

- Sericothrips apteris* Daniel, 1904: 295
- Sericothrips stanfordii* Moulton, 1907: 43
- Sericothrips ineptus* Ahlberg, 1922: 271
- Apterothrips delamarei* Bournier, 1962: 231.

References

Mound LA & Marullo R (1996) The Thrips of Central and South America: An Introduction. *Memoirs on Entomology, International* 6: 1-488.

