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Frankliniella lantanae

Distinguishing features

Female macroptera. Body varying from yellow to largely yellow with light brown markings on fore coxae, metascutum, laterally on mesonotum, and tergites I–VI; antennal segments I–II yellow, III-V light brown at apex, VI-VIII light brown; fore wings pale. Head small, mouth cone long, extending between fore coxae; ocellar setae III 2.0–2.5 times as long as the width of a hind ocellus, arising between paired tangents joining inner and outer margins of fore and hind ocelli; remaining setae on head very small, 4 postocular setae. Antennal segments unusually short, II without microtrichia, III-IV with forked sense cone; VIII twice as long as VII. Pronotum almost without sculpture; anteromarginal and anteroangular setae scarcely larger than discal setae, 2-5 anteromarginal minor setae: 2 pairs of posteroangular setae variable in length, sometimes more than twice diameter of antennal segment II; 5 pairs of posteromarginal setae. Mesonotum with lateral setae much stouter than both posterior pairs. Metanotum weakly sculptured medially, one or both posterior campaniform sensilla sometimes modified to produce a seta. Fore wing unusually short, first vein with about 15 setae, second vein with about 10 setae. Tergites I–II with median setae half as long as median length of tergite, 3-5 transverse lines of sculpture medially; tergites V–VIII with paired ctenidia; posteromarginal comb on VIII with slender microtrichia arising from triangular bases; tergite IX median setae extending beyond apex of tergite X.

Female aptera. Similar to macroptera except, ocelli not developed; mesonotum with group of 4–6 setae at lateral margin; metanotum transverse, median pair of major setae arising well behind anterior margin, posterolaterally with group



Female macroptera Female apteraAntenna



Head & pronotum Aptera pronotum & metanotum



Metanotum & tergitesI–II Tergites VII–IX



of 2–4 setae; tergites I–V usually with 3 pairs of long and equidistant discal setae, V–VIII each with paired ctenidia. Male aptera. Similar to female aptera but smaller; tergites I–VIII each with 3 pairs of stout discal setae; ctenidia not developed on tergites V–VII, sometimes faintly indicated on VII; tergite IX with median discal setae small, arising between median campaniform sensilla, lateral pair long; sternites III–VII with broadly transverse pore plate.

Related species

Frankliniella species all have a pair of setae in front of the first ocellus, a complete row of setae on both veins of the fore wing, and a pair of ctenidia on tergite VIII situated anterolateral to the spiracles. Most of the 180 described species are known only from the neotropics, but *F. schultzei, F. occidentalis* and *F. williamsi* have been widely introduced around the world (Kirk & Terry, 2003). Only two other species of *Frankliniella* are known to have completely apterous adults. One of these, *F. antarctica* from the subantarctic islands, lives on Poaceae and has the head strongly produced in front of the eyes. The second, *F. platensis* from Argentina, is possibly more closely related, but is dark brown, and has five pairs of pronotal major setae. *F. lantanae* possibly originated on one of the Caribbean islands (Mound *et al.*, 2005).

Biological data

Feeding and breeding on the young leaves of *Lantana* spp. (Verbenaceae).

Distribution data

Known only from Australia (Queensland & New South Wales) but presumably New World in origin and probably introduced to Australia from the Caribbean region.

Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

Species name

Frankliniella lantanae Mound, Nakahara & Day

Original name and synonyms

Frankliniella lantanae Mound, Nakahara & Day, 2005: 280.

References

Mound LA, Nakahara S & Day MD (2005) *Frankliniella lantanae* sp.n. (Thysanoptera); a polymorphic alien thripid damaging *Lantana* leaves in Australia. *Australian Journal of Entomology* **44**: 279–283.

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