

Masamithrips williei

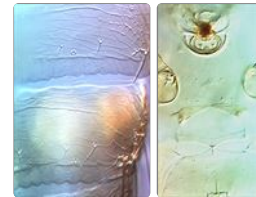


Distinguishing features

Female macroptera. Body and legs mainly yellow, abdominal segment X dark brown, lateral margins of IX shaded light brown; antennal segments I-III yellow, IV-VIII dark brown; fore wing weakly shaded in basal half. Antennae 8-segmented, segment I with no dorso-apical setae, sense cone on III-IV simple. Head broadest across eyes, cheeks straight, converging to base, anterior margin projecting conically in front of eyes; compound eyes with 5 pigmented facets; ocellar setae pair I far apart; III small and arising between mid-points of posterior ocelli; maxillary palps 2-segmented. Pronotum weakly trapezoidal, posterior margin with 4 pairs of setae, 2 pairs of sub-equal posteroangular setae. Prosternal basantra granulate, with 2 pairs of setae; fernal plates scarcely connected medially; meso and meta furca without spinula. Mesonotal anterior campaniform sensilla present, median pair of setae distant from posterior margin. Metanotum medially with irregular sculpture; median setae just behind anterior margin, closer to lateral pair than to each other; no campaniform sensilla. Fore wing slender, first vein with 6-8 setae on basal half, 3 widely spaced setae on distal half; second vein with about 5 widely spaced setae; clavus with 4 or 5 veinal setae but no discal seta; posterior fringe wavy. Tergal sculpture weak but complete medially; II-VIII with broad craspedum, campaniform sensilla close to posterior margin; tergites V-VIII with few microtrichia laterally; setal pair S2 on VIII no longer than S1; tergite IX with median dorsal setae extending well beyond posterior margin of tergite, subequal to posterior median setae in length and thickness; X longer than IX, with complete split. Sternites with no marginal craspedum, II with 0-3 discal setae, 2 pairs of marginal setae; III-VII with irregular row of about 5-7 discal setae; VII with no submarginal setae. Male not known.



Head & pronotum Antenna Meso-metanotum & tergites I-II



Tergites VII-VIII Prosternites

Related species

The genus *Masimithrips* comprises six species, all from northern Australia. These share most character states with the species of *Monothrips*, but have only two maxillary palp segments and lack sternal craspeda. *Aliceathrips* species lack setae on the prosternal basantra, and have the head different in shape, and the species of *Caprithrips* are all wingless and have no long pronotal setae. Females of *williei* are unique within the genus in having antennal segments IV-V uniformly dark brown.

Biological data

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

Distribution data

Known from Western Australia and Queensland.

Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

Species name

Masamithrips williei Mound

Original name and synonyms

Masamithrips williei Mound, 2011: 27.

References

Mound LA (2011b) Grass-dependent Thysanoptera of the family Thripidae from Australia. *Zootaxa* 3064 : 1-40.
<http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/2011/f/z03064p040.pdf>

