

Scirtothrips dorsalis



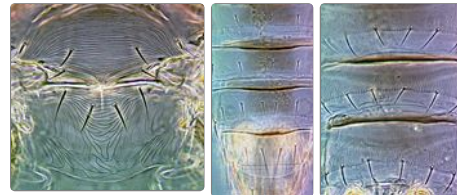
Distinguishing features

Female macroptera. Body yellow with brown marking medially on tergites III–VII, sternites without brown markings but antecostal ridges on tergites and sternites dark brown; fore wings usually strongly shaded but paler toward apex; antennal segment I pale, II shaded, III–VIII dark. Head about twice as wide as long, postocular and ocellar region closely striate; ocellar setae pair III arise between posterior ocelli, well behind tangent between their anterior margins; compound eyes with no ommatidia strongly pigmented; two pairs of post-ocellar setae as long as ocellar setae pair III. Pronotum closely striate, posteromarginal setae S2 30–35 microns, clearly longer than S1. Metanotal sculpture variable, usually transversely arcuate anteriorly, with irregular longitudinal reticulations or striations posteriorly; median pair of setae far behind anterior margin. Fore wing scale with 4 marginal setae; second vein with 2 setae; posteromarginal fringe cilia all straight. Tergites III–V with bases of median setae usually closer together than length of these setae; tergal microtrichial fields with 3 discal setae; VIII with discal microtrichia present anteromedially, posteromarginal comb complete; tergite IX with discal microtrichia present posteromedially. Sternites with microtrichia extending across median area on posterior half. Male macroptera. Similar to female in colour and sculpture, but smaller; aedeagus apparently with no armature.



Female

Head & pronotum



Meso & metanota

Tergites V–VIII

Sternites V–VII



Fore wing

Related species

The genus *Scirtothrips* comprises over 100 described species worldwide, with 21 species known from Australia most of which are endemics to this continent. These species all have the lateral thirds of the abdominal tergites covered in closely spaced rows of fine microtrichia, and in many species the sternites also bear similar microtrichia. The antennae are 8-segmented, except in *S. casuarinae* and *S. solus*, both fore wing veins have an irregular and incomplete setal row, and a median spinula is present on both the meso and metafurca. *S. dorsalis* is similar to *S. aurantii* in having microtrichia extending fully across the sternites, unlike any other species of *Scirtothrips* in Australia. However, the males are readily distinguished by the hind femora lacking a setal comb in *S. dorsalis*, and whereas the forewing cilia are straight in this species they are wavy in *S. aurantii*. Molecular differences have been demonstrated between populations, suggesting that a group of sibling species is involved (Hoddle *et al.*, 2008).

Biological data

Feeding and breeding on young leaves and immature fruits., with adults recorded from many different plant species; sometimes a serious pest, but populations may show localised specificity.

Distribution data

Widespread from Pakistan to Japan and Australia, where it is widespread from southern Queensland across Northern Australia; introduced to Israel, the Carribean area, and northern parts of South America (Ravelo *et al.* 2018).

Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

Species name

Scirtothrips dorsalis Hood

Original name and synonyms

Scirtothrips dorsalis Hood, 1919: 90
Anaphothrips andreae Karny, 1925: 24

Neophysopus fragariae Girault, 1927:1
Heliothrips minutissimus Bagnall, 1919: 260
Scirtothrips padmae Ramakrishna, 1942: 169.

References

Hoddle MS & Mound LA (2003) The genus *Scirtothrips* in Australia (Insecta, Thysanoptera, Thripidae). *Zootaxa* **268**: 1–40. <http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/2003f/zt00268.pdf>

Hoddle MS, Heraty JM, Rugman-Jones PF, Mound LA & Stouthamer R (2008) Relationships among species of *Scirtothrips* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae, Thripinae) using molecular and morphological data. *Annals of the Entomological Society of America* **101**: 491–500.

Ravelo EE, Vaca JU, Arévalo EP, Delgado L, Díaz MF, Piñeros L, Castro AP, Brochero H, & Goldarazena A (2018) Presence and distribution of *Scirtothrips dorsalis* Hood (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) in Colombia. *Journal of Insect Science* **18**(5): 7; 1–10.