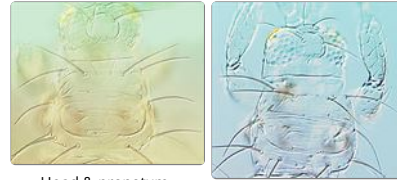


Scolothrips rhagebianus



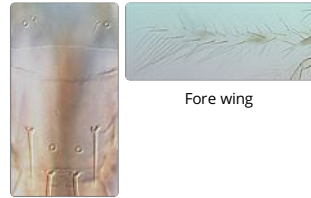
Distinguishing features

Female macroptera. Body yellow with pale grey markings laterally on pronotum and metascutellum, abdominal tergites with more extensive grey markings; pronotal setae dark; antennal segments III–VIII grey; fore wings pale with 2 small dark transverse bands, clavus dark except at apex. Antennae 8-segmented, III–IV with long forked sense cone. Head wider than long, without sculpture between ocelli; 3 pairs of ocellar setae present, pair III very long, arising on anterior margins of ocellar triangle; postocular setae small, pair I close together behind hind ocelli. Pronotum with 6 pairs of very long setae; one pair of discal setae on posterior third. Metanotum with weak reticulation, campaniform sensilla absent; median setae arising at anterior margin. Meso- and metafurca with spinula. Fore wing first and second veins each with 5–7 long setae; clavus with only 3 veinal setae, sub-terminal longer than terminal. Tergites with no sculpture medially; VIII without posteromarginal comb; X with no median longitudinal split. Sternites without discal setae, setae S1 on sternite VII arising in front of margin. Male macroptera. Similar to female but smaller; sternites III–VIII with broadly transverse pore plate, shorter medially than laterally.



Head & pronotum

Head & pronotum



Fore wing

Tergites VIII–IX

Related species

Currently 14 species are recognised in the genus *Scolothrips*, with two further species described from the Canary Islands considered unrecognisable. There remain problems with the identification of two North American species, *S. pallidus* and *S. hoodi*, and these are possibly colour variants of *S. sexmaculatus*. Reports of the later species from Australia are now recognised as misidentifications of *S. rhagebianus*.

Biological data

Breeding on leaves and predatory on various leaf-feeding mite species including *Amblyseius* sp. [Phytoseidae] on *Zea mays*, and *Eutetranychus orientalis* [Tetranychidae] on *Citrus* leaves.

Distribution data

Sudan, Transvaal, Mauritius, India and Australia (Victoria, New South Wales, Western Australia, Northern Territory, Queensland).

Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

Species name

Scolothrips rhagebianus Priesner

Original name and synonyms

Scolothrips rhagebianus Priesner, 1950: 46

Scolothrips indicus Priesner, 1950: 48.

References

Mound LA (2011a) Species recognition in the genus *Scolothrips* (Thysanoptera, Thripidae), predators of leaf-feeding mites. *Zootaxa* 2797: 45–53. <http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/2011/f/z02797p053.pdf>

