

Thrips palmi



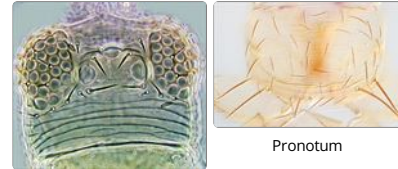
Distinguishing features

Female macroptera. Body and legs yellow, major setae light brown; antennal segments IV–V brown distally, VI–VII brown; fore wings pale. Antennae 7-segmented, III–IV slightly constricted at apex, VII short. Head wider than long, ocellar setae pair III small and arising just outside ocellar triangle; postocular setae pair I slightly longer than ocellar setae III. Pronotum with 2 pairs of long postero-angular setae, posterior margin with 3 pairs of setae. Metanotum with irregular longitudinal lines converging to posterior margin, with curving transverse lines at anterior; median setae arising behind anterior margin, campaniform sensilla present. Fore wing first vein with 3 (or 2) setae on distal half, second vein with row of about 15 setae. Tergite II with 4 lateral marginal setae; posterior margin of tergite VIII with complete comb of long slender microtrichia. Sternites and pleurotergites without discal setae, pleurotergal sculpture lines without microtrichia.

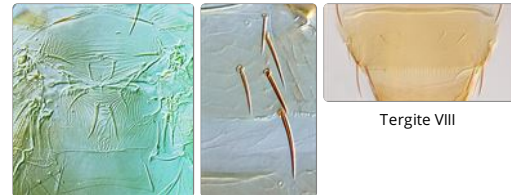
Male macroptera. Similar to but smaller than female; tergite VIII with marginal comb complete medially; sternites III–VII with narrow transverse pore plate.



Female Antenna Antennae



Head Pronotum



Meso & metanota Tergite II margin



Male tergites VIII–IX Male sternites II–VII



Fore wing

Related species

Although *T. palmi* is very similar in structure to the common Holarctic species, *T. flavus* Schrank, it is distinguished by ocellar setae pair III being close together behind the first ocellus and within the ocellar triangle. Another closely related species, *T. alatus* Bhatti, is known from India and Peninsular Malaysia (Mound & Azidah, 2009). There are 33 species of *Thrips* genus known from Australia (Mound & Masumoto, 2005), out of a total of 296 species worldwide (ThripsWiki, 2020). Many of these species have the antennae clearly 7-segmented, whereas others have 8 segments. Some species have two complete rows of setae on the fore wing veins, whereas others have the setal row on the first vein more or less widely interrupted. Moreover, some species have sternal discal setae, whereas other species have only marginal setae on the sternites. Despite this variation, all members of *Thrips* genus have paired ctenidia on the tergites, and on tergite VIII these are postero-mesad to the spiracles, and they also lack ocellar setae pair I in front of the first ocellus. In contrast, *Frankliniella* species have ctenidia on tergite VIII antero-lateral to the spiracles, and a pair of setae is always present in front of the first ocellus.

Biological data

Feeding and breeding in flowers and on leaves, and particularly common on crops of Cucurbitaceae and Solanaceae, also cultivated Orchids; a major pest on several crops, both through direct feeding damage and as a tospovirus vector.

Distribution data

Originally from Asian tropics but now widespread in tropical countries, including Australia (Northern Territory and Queensland).

Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

Species name

Thrips palmi Karny

Original name and synonyms

Thrips palmi Karny, 1925: 10

Thrips clarus Moulton, 1928: 294

Thrips leucadophilus Priesner, 1936: 91

Thrips gossypicola Priesner, 1939: 41

Chloethrips aureus Ananthakrishnan & Jagadish, 1967: 381

Thrips gracilis Ananthakrishnan & Jagadish, 1968: 361.

References

Mound LA & Masumoto M (2005) The genus *Thrips* (Thysanoptera, Thripidae) in Australia, New Caledonia and New Zealand. *Zootaxa* 1020: 1–64. <http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/2005f/zt01020p064.pdf>

Mound LA & Azidah AA (2009) Species of the genus *Thrips* (Thysanoptera) from Peninsular Malaysia, with a checklist of recorded Thripidae. *Zootaxa* 2023: 55–68. <http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/2009/f/zt02023p068.pdf>