

# Acanthothrips argentifer

## Distinguishing features

This species has not been studied by the present authors. It was described as having reticulate sculpture, apparently similar to that of *A. nodicornis*, but with two pairs of well-developed setae on the prothoracic epimera of which the inner pair is about half as long as the outer pair.

## Related species

The genus *Acanthothrips* includes 13 species, of which one is Holarctic, one is from northern Europe, five are known only from North America, and six are from the Neotropics including Mexico. Priesner (1964) distinguished this genus from the worldwide genus *Hoplandrothrips* on the basis that the fore wings are parallel sided. Although this is true of *A. nodicornis*, the fore wings of *A. albivittatus* and *A. argentifer* are constricted medially at least as much as in some species of *Hoplandrothrips*. The antennae of *A. albivittatus* are uniformly dark, whereas the median antennal segments are largely yellow in the other two species recorded from California. Specimens of *A. argentifer* have not been studied, but this was described as being reticulate like *A. nodicornis*, although in contrast to that species the females were described as having the fore tarsus "with a very small tooth".

## Biological data

Breeding on dead branches of willow (*Salix*), and feeding on unidentified fungal hyphae.

## Distribution data

Known only from California.

## Family name

PHLAEOTHRIPIDAE, PHLAEOTHRIPINAE

## Species name

*Acanthothrips argentifer* (Cott)

## Original name and synonyms

*Notothrips argentifer* Cott, 1956: 141

## References

Cott HE (1956) Systematics of the suborder Tubulifera (Thysanoptera) in California. *University of California, Berkeley, Publications in Entomology* 13: 1–216.

Priesner H (1964) Ordnung Thysanoptera (Fransenflügler, Thripse). in Franz H, *Bestimmungsbücher zur Bodenfauna Europas* 2: 1–242. Akademie-Verlag.