

# Aeolothrips bicolor

## Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body, legs and antennae brown, except antennal segment III yellow with extreme apex brown, abdominal segments II and III clear yellow; fore wings with two dark cross bands, apical ring vein pale. Antennae 9-segmented, segment III with sensorium straight and about 0.3 as long as segment, IV with straight sensorium less than 0.5 as long as segment, segment VI almost as long as VII-X. Head and pronotum with no long setae. Fore tarsus apically with stout recurved ventral hamus. Tergite I with about 7 transverse lines. Median two pairs of sternal marginal setae arising at margin, but lateral two pairs arise sub-marginally on discal area; sternite VII with two pairs of accessory setae arising almost medially on disc.

Male paler than female, but antennal segment III brownish-yellow in apical half; tergites without tubercles; tergite IX with paired claspers, but without stout curved seta lateral to clasper.



female

## Related species

This is one of five species in western USA with the basal abdominal segments sharply yellow. It is particularly similar to *A. brunneipictus* in having antennal segment VI more elongate than in the other species.

## Biological data

Living at the base of grasses, also of *Hemerocallis* plants, and presumably predatory on mites or thrips larvae.

## Distribution data

Not recorded from California, but common in Illinois (Stannard, 1968) and widespread across North America south to Florida and Mexico, and also known from Costa Rica (Mound & Marullo, 1996).

## Family name

AEOLOTHRIPIDAE

## Species name

*Aeolothrips bicolor* Hinds

## Original name and synonyms

*Aeolothrips bicolor* Hinds, 1902: 130

## References

Mound LA & Marullo R (1996) The Thrips of Central and South America: An Introduction. *Memoirs on Entomology, International* 6: 1–488.

Stannard LJ (1968) The Thrips, or Thysanoptera, of Illinois. *Bulletin of the Illinois Natural History Survey* 29: 213–552.