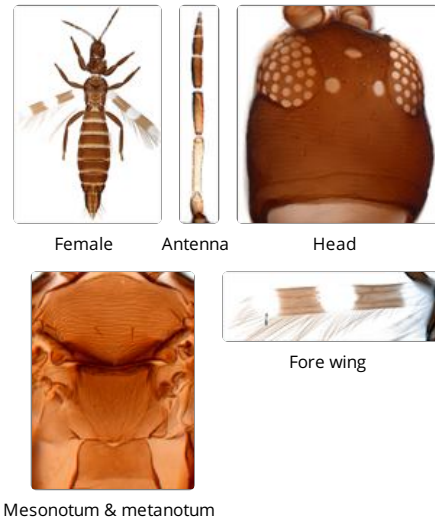


Aeolothrips nasturtii

Distinguishing features

Female with banded wings; median pale band shorter than distal dark band. Body and legs brown, antennal segment III yellow with only extreme apex dark, IV slightly paler at base. Antennae 9-segmented, segment III long and slender with linear sensorium about 0.25 as long as segment, IV with sensorium less than 0.5 as long as segment and curved distally; segment VI slightly constricted at base and thus V–IX not forming a single unit, with V clearly shorter than VI–IX. Head and pronotum with no long setae. Fore tarsus apically with stout recurved ventral hamus. Median marginal setae on sternites arising at or close to margin but lateral pairs arise on disc; sternite VII with two pairs of accessory setae arising medially on sternite.



Related species

A. nasturtii is possibly a member of the *A. fasciatus* group, but with antennal segment VI clearly constricted at the base, and segment V shorter than VI–IX. Because the male remains unknown, the identity of *A. nasturtii* continues to be problematical. About 105 species are placed currently in the genus *Aeolothrips*. Most of these are from the Palearctic Region (including the Mediterranean, Iran and northern India, but with five species extending through eastern Africa to South Africa), with about 30 species from the Nearctic (mainly western USA). Only one species of this genus is known from the Neotropics, *A. fasciatipennis* described from Chile, but Mound & Marullo (1996) indicate this is probably the same as *A. fasciatus*.

Biological data

Swept from a wide range of flowers and grasses, with no information on specificity. Presumably flower-living as a facultative predator with a mixed diet of pollen and the larvae of other thrips.

Distribution data

Although described from California, this species is considered by Bailey (1951) to be widespread across the USA north of Georgia and California, and into Canada.

Family name

AEOLOTHRIPIDAE

Species name

Aeolothrips nasturtii Jones

Original name and synonyms

Aeolothrips nasturtii Jones, 1912: 2

Aeolothrips tuolumnei Moulton, 1927: 187

References

Bailey SF (1951) The genus *Aeolothrips* Haliday in North America. *Hilgardia* 21: 43–80.

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