

Amynothrips andersoni

Distinguishing features

Both sexes either fully winged or with wings shorter than thorax width. Body, legs and antennae brown, fore tarsi and antennal segment III sometimes paler; fore wing weakly shaded. Antennae 8-segmented; segments III & IV with apex truncate, 2 sense cones on III, 4 on IV; segment VIII slender. Head longer than wide, without sculpture dorsally; eyes much larger dorsally than ventrally; postocular setae wide apart, apices blunt; maxillary stylets retracted to postocular setae, one third of head width apart with slender maxillary bridge. Pronotum with no sculpture medially; anteromarginal setae minute; remaining 4 pairs of major setae unstable in size and shape, long or very short; paired prosternal basantra present. Fore tarsus with small hooked tooth at inner apex. Metanotum reticulate. Fore wings parallel sided, without duplicated cilia. Pelta reticulate; tergites II & VII with wing retaining setae weak, sigmoid on III-VI; tergite IX setae S1 bluntly pointed, about as long as tube. Male smaller, tergite IX setae S2 short and stout; sternite VIII with broadly transverse pore plate.



Short-winged female Antenna Head & pronotum



Mesonotum, metanotum, pelta & Tergites IX-X (tube) tergite II

Related species

The genus *Amynothrips* includes only one species. Although this has prosternal basantra similar to those found in *Haplothrips* and its relatives, the fore wing is parallel sided not constricted medially.

Biological data

Breeding on the leaves of Alligator weed, *Alternanthera philoxeroides* [Amaranthaceae], of which aquatic weed it is a useful biological control agent (O'Neill, 1968).

Distribution data

Native to Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay, but introduced to USA and Australia (Mound & Marullo, 1996).

Family name

PHLAEOTHIRIPIDAE, PHLAEOTHIRIPINAE

Species name

Amynothrips andersoni O'Neill

Original name and synonyms

Amynothrips andersoni O'Neill, 1968: 179

References

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

O'Neill K (1968) *Amynothrips andersoni*, a new genus and species injurious to alligatorweed (Thysanoptera: Phlaeothripidae). *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington* 70 (2): 175-183.