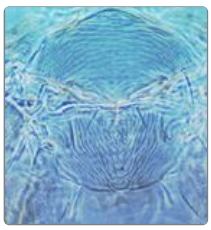
Ankothrips robustus


Female


Antenna


Head


Pronotum


Mesonotum & metanotum


Male


Male tergite IX


Fore wing

Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body, legs and antennae light brown to brown, antennal segment III paler at base; fore wings fuscous with apex darker; male pale brown. Antennae 9-segmented, IX longer than VIII, sensoria transverse on III & IV, segment II apex prolonged ventro-laterally into non-serrate lobe. Head with ocellar setae I arising on conical, slightly bifurcate tubercle, setae III arise within ocellar triangle. Head with 3 pairs of prominent postocular setae. Pronotum posterior margin with 7–8 pairs of prominent setae, one posteroangular pair at least 3 times as long as discal setae. Mesonotum with no microtrichia on sculpture lines. Metanotum medially with concentric rings of sculpture bearing microtrichia, median setae near posterior margin. Abdominal tergite VIII median setae more than 0.5 as long as tergite; tergite X with paired trichobothria well developed. Sternite VII posterior margin with pair of lobes each bearing two setae at base.
Male tergite IX with four to six pairs of stout setae medially (the number is likely to be higher in larger males).

Related species

Currently there are 13 species listed in the genus *Ankothrips*, seven of which are from western USA with five from California (Bailey, 1957). Of the others, one is from SW Africa, one from Iran, and four from southern or eastern Europe. Although at one time considered members of the Aeolothripidae, all females of Melanthripidae have a pair of lobes at the posterior margin of sternite VII, a condition that is otherwise found only in females of Merothripidae.

Biological data

Presumably breeding in flowers, with adults collected from various flowers and grasses, but with no record of the larval host.

Distribution data

Known from California and Oregon.

Family name

MELANTHRIPIDAE

Species name

Ankothrips robustus Crawford DL

Original name and synonyms

Ankothrips robustus Crawford DL, 1909: 100

References

Bailey SF (1940) A review of the genus *Ankothrips* D.L.Crawford (Thysanoptera). *Pan-Pacific Entomologist* **16**: 97–106.

Bailey SF (1957) The thrips of California Part I: Suborder Terebrantia. Bulletin *of California Insect Survey* **4**: 143–220.