

Asprothrips seminigricornis

Distinguishing features

Female fully winged. Body, legs and wings almost white, antennal segments V–VIII dark brown. Antennae 8-segmented, III & IV each with a forked sense cone, VI with a long simple sense cone. Head with minute pair of setae between hind ocelli. Pronotum without long setae. Metanotum reticulate, median setae far behind anterior margin. Metathoracic endofurca elongate and lyre-shaped. Tarsi all 2-segmented. Fore wing slender, veinal setae minute, about 4 on both veins; posteromarginal cilia wavy. Abdominal tergites with median pair of setae small; tergite VIII with posteromarginal comb of short microtrichia medially.

Related species

Eight species are known in the genus *Asprothrips*, all from countries between India and Australia. The genus is considered to be a member of the Dendrothripinae, because of the elongate "lyre-shaped" metathoracic furca, but differs from species of *Dendrothrips* in having very short setae medially on the tergites (Mound, 1999).

Biological data

Larvae and adults feed on the leaves of a range of different plant species, with no evidence of any particular relationship. It was noted to be damaging the leaves of *Gardenia augusta* in a greenhouse at Brisbane, in Queensland, Australia, and considerable numbers were collected from the leaves of *Ricinus* in northern New South Wales. However, on Norfolk Island, Australia, it was found in large numbers on the leaves of various tree crops, but with no obvious damage (Mound & Wells, 2015).

Distribution data

Possibly originally from Australia, this species has been reported from USA (California; New York), Bermuda, and Hawaii.

Family name

THRIPIDAE - DENDROTHRIPINAE

Species name

Asprothrips seminigricornis (Girault)

Original name and synonyms

Euthrips seminigricornis Girault, 1926: 2

Scirtothrips antennatus Moulton, 1937: 409

Asprothrips raii Crawford JC, 1938: 110

References

Mound LA (1999) Saltatorial leaf-feeding Thysanoptera (Thripidae, Dendrothripinae) in Australia and New Caledonia, with newly recorded pests of ferns, figs and mulberries. *Australian Journal of Entomology* **38**: 257–273.

Mound LA & Wells A (2015) Endemics and adventives: Thysanoptera (Insecta) Biodiversity of Norfolk, a tiny Pacific Island. *Zootaxa* **3964** (2): 183–210.

