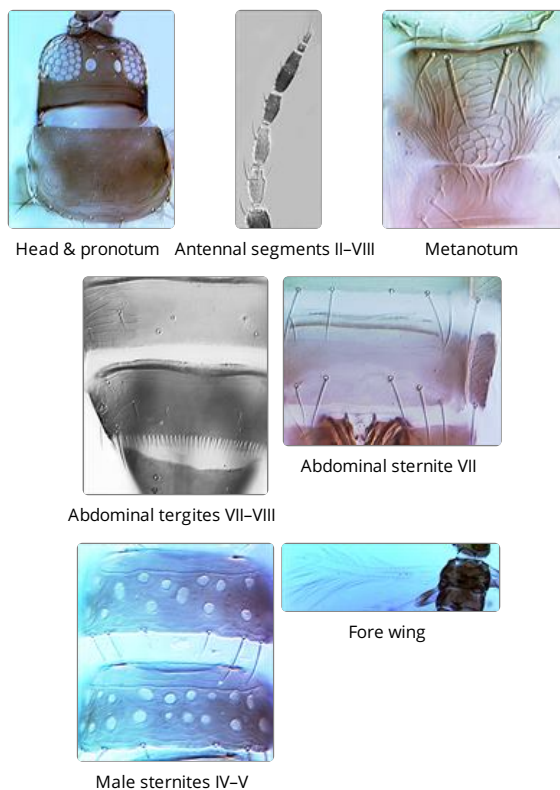


# Ceratothripoides claratris

## Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body brown, legs yellow with extensive brown shadings particularly on femora, antennal segment III yellow, IV–V variably yellow and brown, fore wings pale but weakly shaded. Antennae 8-segmented, segment I with a pair of small dorso-apical setae; III & IV each with a forked sense cone. Head slightly longer than wide, 3 pairs of ocellar setae present, III almost twice as long as lateral margin of ocellar triangle, arising close to anterolateral margin. Pronotum with 2 pairs of posteroangular setae. Metanotum irregularly reticulate, posterior reticles smallest, median setae at anterior margin and more than two-thirds as long as metanotum, paired campaniform sensilla absent. Fore wing first vein with only 2 setae on distal half, second vein with 14–16 setae. Abdominal tergites with sculpture lines scarcely extending mesad to campaniform sensilla, without ctenidia; tergite VIII with long regular marginal comb. Sternites without discal setae, marginal setae as long as sternites; sternite VII setae S1 and S2 arising well in front of margin. Male smaller, sternites III–VII each with about 12 small pore plates in two irregular transverse rows.



## Related species

The genus *Ceratothripoides* currently includes five species from Africa and the Oriental region. However, the distinction between the Oriental species *C. claratris* and the African species *C. cameroni* remains equivocal (Mound & Nickle, 2009). Species in *Ceratothripoides* have a pair of small setae dorsally near the apex of the first antennal segment, but otherwise are similar in appearance to species of *Ewartithrips* and *Tenothrips*. A further member of the genus, *Ceratothripoides brunneus*, that is widespread in Africa, has been studied from Puerto Rico as well as Malaysia and is a potential invader of USA - it is readily distinguished by the uniformly brown fore wings.

## Biological data

Breeding in flowers, on young fruits, and on leaves of various plants, but reported as causing considerable damage to tomato plants in Thailand (Premachandra *et al.*, 2004). Reported to be a vector of *Capsicum* chlorosis virus (Premachandra *et al.*, 2005).

## Distribution data

India to Thailand, but a potentially invasive species in horticultural trade.

## Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

## Species name

*Ceratothripoides claratris* (Shumsher)

## Original name and synonyms

*Taeniothrips claratris* Shumsher, 1946: 178

*Mycterothrips moultoni* Seshadri & Ananthakrishnan, 1954: 213

*Ceratothrips reticulatus* Reyes, 1994: 183

## References

Mound LA & Nickle DA (2009) The Old-World genus *Ceratothripoides* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) with a new genus for related New-World species. *Zootaxa* 2230: 57-63.