

Dactuliothrips xerophilus

Distinguishing features

Female fully winged. Body, legs and antennae brown, except fore tarsi, fore tibiae and antennal segment III and sometimes IV yellow; fore wings shaded distally but pale near base. Antennae 9-segmented, segment IX longer than VIII; segment III apparently without sensoria, IV with 1 small oval sensorium. Head relatively long with 2 pairs of long postocular setae. Pronotum with many prominent setae, about 5 pairs on anterior margin and 5 pairs on posterior margin. Mesonotum with many microtrichia. Metanotum with only one pair of setae, sculpture arcuate around anterior margin and with many microtrichia. Fore femur with 1–4 small moderately stout setae on inner margin. Fore tarsal hamus recurved. Fore wing broad with apex rounded. Abdominal tergites with transverse lines of sculpture. Sternites IV–VI with 3 pairs of marginal setae and 5–6 discal setae medially but not laterally, completely covered with microtrichia; sternite VII with discal setae laterally and 2 pairs of supernumerary setae sub-medially.

Related species

This species has antennal segment III pale, but the pronotum bears only three pairs of well-developed discal setae in contrast to *ephedra* and *spinus*. Currently there are nine species described in the genus *Dactuliothrips*; five are from California and four from Argentina.

Biological data

Breeding in the flowers of *Yucca brevifolia* [Agavaceae].

Distribution data

Recorded only from California

Family name

AEOLOTHRIPIDAE

Species name

Dactuliothrips xerophilus Bailey

Original name and synonyms

Dactuliothrips xerophilus Bailey, 1937:122

References

Pereyra V & de Borbon CM (2013) The American genus *Dactuliothrips* (Thysanoptera: Aeolothripidae) with three new species. *Zootaxa* 3734 (1): 001–014.

