

# Haplothrips halophilus

## Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body brown to dark brown; fore tarsi and inner apex of fore tibiae, also pedicel of antennal segment III yellowish; fore wing pale with extreme base shaded. Antennae 8-segmented, segment III short with one sense cone, IV with 4 sense cones; segment VIII short and broad at base. Head longer than wide; maxillary stylets one third of head width apart, retracted to postocular setae, maxillary bridge complete; postocular setae bluntly pointed, about half as long as eyes. Pronotum with three pairs of weakly capitate major setae, anteromarginal and midlateral setae no longer than discal setae; epimeral sutures complete; prosternal basantra and ferna large, mesopresternum eroded to paired lateral triangles. Fore tarsal tooth prominent and recurved at inner apex of tarsus. Fore wing with about 10 duplicated cilia, sub-basal setae S1 and S2 blunt to weakly capitate, S3 acute. Tergite IX setae S1 bluntly pointed, shorter than tube, S2 acute.

Male with broadly based fore tarsal tooth; pronotal midlateral setae well-developed; sternite VIII without pore plate; tergite IX setae S2 short and stout; pseudovirga of aedeagus slender.

## Related species

In California, the only species similar to *H. halophilus* is *H. ruber* (Moulton), but that is known only from a single female that has capitate rather than pointed postocular setae (Cott, 1956). The genus *Haplothrips*, one of the three most species rich genera of Thysanoptera, and currently includes about 245 species worldwide (Mound & Minaei, 2007). These species are found mainly from Europe across the Old World, and only a few come from South America (Mound & Zapater, 2003). Although 17 *Haplothrips* species are listed from Mexico and North America (Mound & Marullo, 1996) only six of these are recorded from California (Hoddle *et al.* 2004). Little is known of the biology of the Californian species, although elsewhere the species of *Haplothrips* are associated particularly with the flowers of Poaceae and Asteraceae.

## Biological data

Presumably breeding in flowers, and possibly of Poaceae as most available specimens were swept from grasses.

## Distribution data

Widespread in Western USA, and reported from Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and California.

## Family name

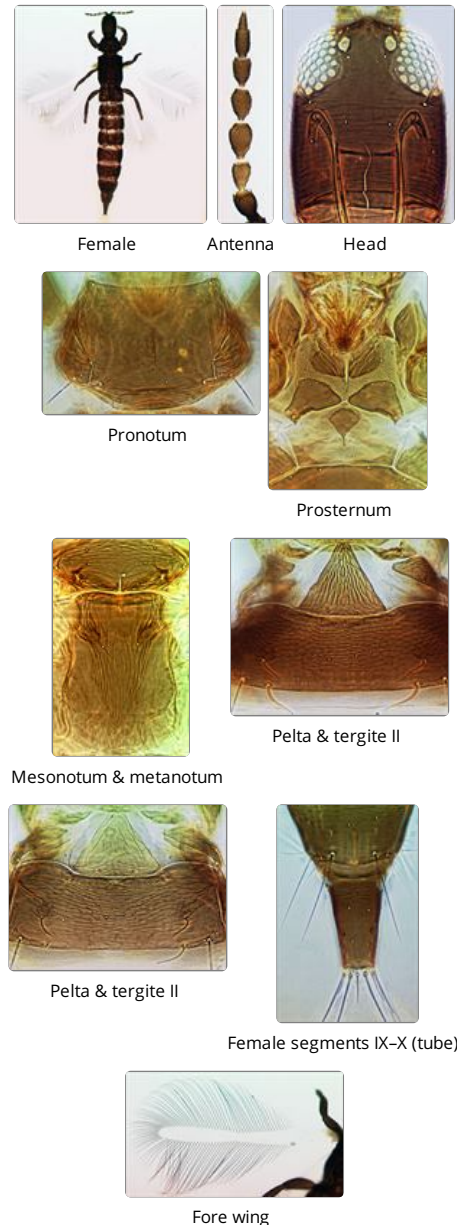
PHLAEOTHIRIPIDAE, PHLAEOTHIRIPINAE

## Species name

*Haplothrips halophilus* Hood

## Original name and synonyms

*Haplothrips halophilus* Hood, 1915: 29



## References

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- Mound LA & Minaei K (2007) Australian insects of the *Haplothrips* lineage (Thysanoptera – Phlaeothripinae). *Journal of Natural History* **41**: 2919–2978.
- Mound LA & Zapater MC (2001) South American *Haplothrips* species (Thysanoptera, Phlaeothripidae), with a new species of biological control interest to Australia against weedy *Heliotropium amplexicaule* (Boraginaceae). *Neotropical Entomology* **32**: 437–442.