

Haplothrips leucanthemi

Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body brown to dark brown, fore tarsi and base of antennal segment III yellow; fore wing pale with base extensively shaded. Antennae 8-segmented, segment III with 2 sense cones, IV with 4 sense cones; VIII short and broad at base. Head slightly longer than wide; maxillary stylets one third of head width apart, retracted to postocular setae, maxillary bridge complete; postocular setae acute, usually not reaching posterior margin of compound eyes. Pronotal setae small and acute, anteromarginal and midlateral setae no longer than discal setae; epimeral sutures complete; prosternal basantra and ferna present, mesopresternum eroded to paired lateral triangles. Fore tarsal tooth minute in female, large in large male. Fore wing constricted medially, with 7–12 duplicated cilia, sub-basal setae acute or blunt. Tergite IX setae S1 bluntly pointed, much shorter than tube, S2 acute. Male with no pore plate on sternite VIII; tergite IX setae S2 short and stout; pseudovirga of aedeagus slender.

Related species

The identity of *H. leucanthemi* is a problem that merits further study. This species is particularly associated with large daisy flowers, such as those of *Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*. However, there is a form in red clover flowers, *Trifolium pratense*, that is commonly known as *H. niger* and is considered to be a parthenogenetic strain of *H. leucanthemi*. Within the genus this thrips is remarkable because of the unusually short setae on the head and pronotum (Mound & Minaei, 2007). The genus *Haplothrips*, one of the three most species rich genera of Thysanoptera, 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

Breeding and pupating within the flowers of various Asteraceae, but also on *Trifolium* spp. [Fabaceae] and *Plantago* spp. [Plantaginaceae].

Distribution data

Under the name *H. niger*, this species is listed by Cott (1956: 111) as widespread across the northern parts of North America into California. It is also widespread across Europe to Iran, and is known from New Zealand and southern Australia, with a few records from Chile and Argentina.

Family name

PHLAEOTHIRIPIDAE, PHLAEOTHIRIPINAE

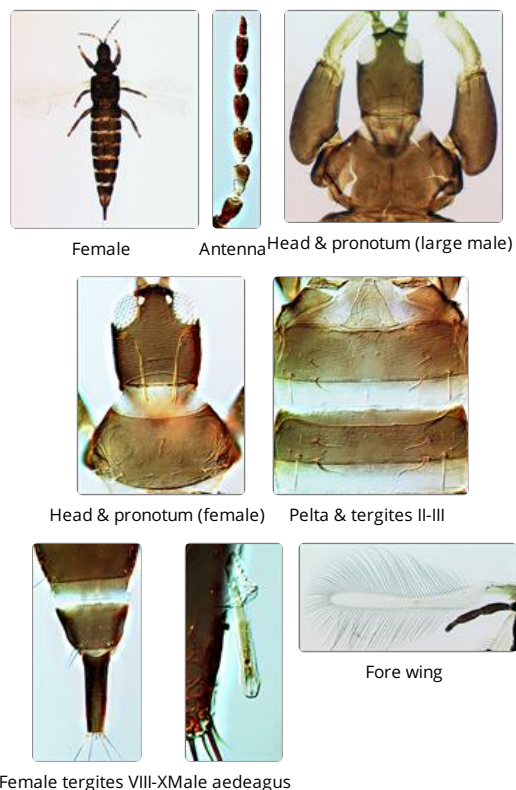
Species name

Haplothrips leucanthemi (Schrank)

Original name and synonyms

Thrips leucanthemi Schrank, 1781: 298

Phloeothrips niger Osborn, 1883: 154



Phloeothrips armatus Lindeman, 1887: 335
Phloeothrips obscuricornis Reuter, 1909: 20
Haplothrips trifolii Priesner, 1919: 130
Zygothrips wyomingensis Watson, 1923: 82.

References

Cott HE (1956) Systematics of the suborder Tubulifera (Thysanoptera) in California. *University of California, Berkeley, Publications in Entomology* **13**: 1–216.

Hoddle M, Mound LA & Nakahara S (2004) Thysanoptera recorded from California, USA: a checklist. *Florida Entomologist* **87**: 317–323.

Mound LA & Marullo R (1996) The Thrips of Central and South America: An Introduction. *Memoirs on Entomology, International* **6**: 1–488.

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.