

Leptothrips fasciculatus

Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body and legs brown, antennal segment III pedicel paler; major setae brown; fore wings pale, scarcely shaded at base. Antennae 8-segmented; segment III with one sense cone, IV with 4 sense cones, VIII short and broad at base.

Head distinctly longer than wide; eyes not prolonged ventrally; postocular setae pointed, almost equal to eye length. Pronotum

with no sculpture lines medially, with 5 pairs of pointed major setae; prosternal basantra and ferna present, mesopresternum reduced to paired lateral triangles. Fore tarsus with small pointed tooth. Metanotum closely striate medially. Fore wing constricted medially, without duplicated cilia. Tergite IX setae S1 pointed, as long as tube.

Male similar to female, but fore tarsal tooth larger; tergite IX setae S2 short and stout; sternite VIII with no pore plate; pseudovirga of aedeagus slender.



Pronotum



Meso & metanotum

Related species

The genus *Leptothrips* is related to *Haplothrips*, but the metanotal sculpture is closely striate not reticulate, and larvae and adults usually have extensive purple internal pigment. Currently, 30 species are listed under *Leptothrips*, all from the Americas. Johansen (1987) described 22 new species in the genus, with 11 *Leptothrips* recorded from California. However, Mound & O'Donnell (2017) placed nine species into synonymy and recognised only 15 *Leptothrips* species from North America of which nine are reported from California. Amongst these nine, *fasciculatus* is one of three species in which females have a small tooth on the inner margin of the fore tarsus; it differs from *distalis* in lacking duplicated cilia on the fore wings, and from *purpuratus*, in lacking sculpture lines on the pronotum, and in having a sense cone on the third antennal segment.

Biological data

Weisenborn (2012) recorded this thrips as anthophilous on *Eriogonum fasciculatum* [Polygonaceae], with no evidence that it was predatory.

Distribution data

Recorded from California, North Dakota, Oregon, Nevada and Arizona.

Family name

PHLAEOTHIRIPIDAE, PHLAEOTHIRIPINAE

Species name

Leptothrips fasciculata (Crawford DL)

Original name and synonyms

Phyllothrips fasciculata Crawford DL, 1909: 105

Phyllothrips fasciculata var. *stenoceps* Crawford DL, 1909: 108

Anthothrips nigricornis Jones, 1912: 17

Haplothrips jonesi Karny, 1912: 344 [replacement name for *nigricornis* Jones]

Leptothrips russelli Morgan, 1913: 39.

References

Johansen RM (1987) El genero *Leptothrips* Hood, 1909 (Thysanoptera: Phlaeothripidae) en el continente Americano: su sistematica, filogenia, biogeografia, biologia, conducta y ecologia. *Monografias del Instituto de Biologia. Universidad Nacional de Mexico* 3: 1–246.

Mound LA & O'Donnell CA (2017) Predation, phytophagy and character state confusion among North American species of the genus *Leptothrips* (Thysanoptera: Phlaeothripinae). *Zootaxa* 4294 (3): 301–315.

Wiesenborn WD (2012) Life stages of the anthophilous thrips *Leptothrips fasciculatus* (Thysanoptera: Phlaeothripidae). *Journal of the Kansas Entomological Society* 85: 332–339. <https://doi.org/10.2317/0022-8567-85.4.332>