

Leptothrips oribates

Distinguishing features

Although generally similar in colour and structure to members of the *mali*-group, this species has almost no sculpture lines medially on the pronotum, and the metanotal striae are less closely spaced than in *mali* and its relatives.

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.

Biological data

Presumably predatory on small arthropods, and collected from the leaves of both *Pinus* and *Quercus* (Johansen, 1987: 55). The synonym *brevicapitis* was collected from *Pinus* species including *Pinus ponderosa*.

Distribution data

Recorded from California, Oregon, Arizona, Mexico, Colorado and New Mexico.

Family name

PHLAEOTHRIPIDAE, PHLAEOTHRIPINAE

Species name

Leptothrips oribates Hood

Original name and synonyms

Leptothrips oribates Hood, 1939: 205

Leptothrips oregonensis Hood, 1939: 213

Leptothrips brevicapitis Johansen, 1987: 52

References

Johansen RM (1987) El genero *Leptothrips* Hood, 1909 (Thysanoptera: Phlaeothripidae) en el continente Americano: su sistemática, filogenia, biogeografía, biología, conducta y ecología. *Monografías del Instituto de Biología. Universidad Nacional de México* 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.



Tergites IX-X *brevicapitis* holotype Meso & metanotum (*brevicapitis* holotype)