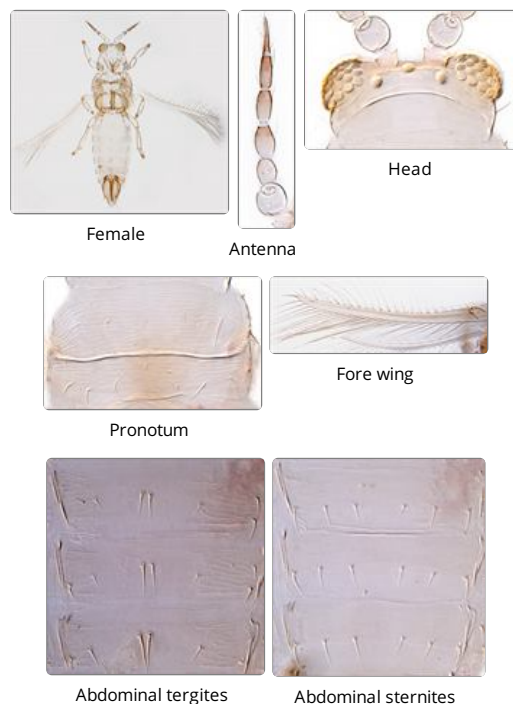


Leucothrips piercei

Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body, legs and wings white, antennal segments VI–VII light brown. Antennae 7-segmented, VII slender and as long as VI; sense cones simple on III–IV, segment VI with long simple sense cone arising near to base on inner margin. Head lacking sculpture. Pronotum transversely striate, with two pairs of prominent postero-angular setae of which the outer pair is longer than the inner. Metanotum with linear sculpture lines converging medially, median pair of setae small and arising medially. Tarsi all 1-segmented. Fore wing slender, pointed; first vein with three widely spaced setae on distal half, second vein without setae, postero-marginal cilia straight. Abdominal tergites II–VIII median setae long and close together; lateral thirds of tergites with transverse lines of sculpture bearing weak microtrichia; VIII with postero-marginal comb of microtrichia. Sternites III–VII with three pairs of long postero-marginal setae. Male with sense cones simple on antennal segment III–IV.



Related species

Five species are recognized in the genus *Leucothrips*, and although presumably originally from the Neotropics (some have been widely dispersed by the horticultural trade (Masumoto & Okajima, 2017). As with other species of the Dendrothripinae, the metathoracic furca is enlarged and lyre-shaped, extending to the mesothorax.

Biological data

Possibly on leaves, and recorded from *Cercis canadensis* [Caesalpiniaceae], *Capsicum annuum* [Solanaceae], and *Phaseolus vulgaris* [Fabaceae].

Distribution data

Recorded from Eastern North America, including Georgia and Florida, also Mexico and California (Stannard, 1968), Argentina and Japan (Masumoto & Okajima, 2017).

Family name

THRIPIDAE - DENDROTHRIPINAE

Species name

Leucothrips piercei (Morgan)

Original name and synonyms

Microthrips piercei Morgan, 1913: 19

References

Masumoto M & Okajima S (2017) Studies on Dendrothripinae (Thysanoptera, Thripidae) from Japan, with new records and one new species. *Zootaxa* 4362 (3): 405–420.