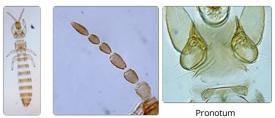
Merothrips morgani

Distinguishing features

Similar in structure to M. floridensis but with curved sculpture lines medially on the pronotum.

Related species

Although listed from California by Hoddle et al. (2004), no specimens of *M. morgani* have been studied by the present authors from west of Texas. This eastern North American species is similar in general body form to *M. floridensis*, but has distinctively curved sculpture lines on the median area of the pronotum. The only other species with similar pronotal sculpture is *M. yii* from Malaysia. A total of 14 extant species are listed in the genus Merothrips, all from the warmer parts of the world, and there are a further three species described from Baltic Amber fossils.



Female aptera Antenna



Meso and metanota



Biological data

Feeding on hyphae of unidentified fungi, and breeding on dead twigs and branches.

Distribution data

USA (Illinois, Connecticut, New York, District of Colombia, Maryland, Virginia, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Texas, California, Hawaii), Panama, Galapagos Islands, Australia, India, Malaysia, Kenya (Mound & O'Neill, 1974).

Family name

MEROTHRIPIDAE

Species name

Merothrips morgani Hood

Original name and synonyms

Merothrips morgani Hood, 1912: 132 Merothrips hawaiiensis Hood, 1937: 411

References

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

Mound LA & O'Neill K (1974) Taxonomy of the Merothripidae, with ecological and phylogenetic considerations (Thysanoptera). Journal of Natural History 8: 481-509.