

# Neohydatothrips samayunkur

## Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body bicolored, mainly dark brown with abdominal segments III–VI yellowish with brown antecostal ridge; pronotum yellow at anterior margin, also all tarsi, base and apex of tibiae, and base antennal segments II–V; fore wings pale with two transverse dark areas, small dark area at base. Antennae 8-segmented, III & IV each with short forked sense cone. Head with three pairs of ocellar setae, pair III on anterior margins of triangle; postocular region short. Pronotum anterior half with transversely elongate reticles, "blotch" darker with closely spaced striae; posteroangular setae 65 microns. Metanotal striations transverse at anterior, closely longitudinal medially. Fore wing with first vein setal row complete. Abdominal tergites II–V median setae often with distance between their bases scarcely twice diameter of setal pore; VII–VIII with posteromarginal comb of microtrichia complete. Sternites with many microtrichia medially as well as laterally.

## Related species

This introduced, strikingly bicolored pest of Marigold plants is similar to *N. burungae* and *N. variabilis* in having microtrichia across the median area of the abdominal sternites. It differs from *variabilis* in having brown markings on the hind tibiae, and in tergites IX–X being as dark brown as VII–VIII. Unfortunately, *samayunkur* was misidentified by Mound & Marullo (1996) as a species known only from Mexico, *Neohydatothrips pseudoannulipes* Johansen, this error being recognized subsequently by Nakahara (1999). The genus *Neohydatothrips* is found in many parts of the world and almost 120 species are listed. Identification keys are available to 13 species recorded from Central America (Mound & Marullo, 1996), and 41 species from the Neotropics (Lima & Mound, 2016). Stannard (1968) treats 11 species from Illinois, but many of the 35 species described from the USA north of Mexico (Nakahara, 1988) remain poorly defined.

## Biological data

Breeding in flowers and on leaves and sometimes causing leaf deformation on cultivated *Tagetes erecta* (African marigolds) [Asteraceae].

## Distribution data

Recorded from USA (Florida, California, Hawaii), Mexico, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Japan, Australia, Sri Lanka, and Kenya.

## Family name

THRIPIDAE - SERICOTHRIPINAE

## Species name

*Neohydatothrips samayunkur* (Kudo)

## Original name and synonyms

*Hydatothrips* (*Neohydatothrips*) *samayunkur* Kudo, 1996: 169

*Neohydatothrips pseudoannulipes* - misidentification in Mound & Marullo, 1996; NOT *pseudoannulipes* Johansen, 1983



*Neohydatothrips samayunkur* female



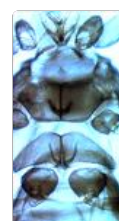
Antenna



Head & pronotum



*Neohydatothrips samayunkur* head Mesonotum & metanotum & pronotum



Thoracic sternites



Abdominal tergites VI–VIII



Abdominal sternites



Second instar larva



Fore wing

## References

- Lima EFB & Mound LA (2016b) Species-richness in Neotropical Sericothripinae (Thysanoptera: Thripidae). *Zootaxa* **4162**: 1–45.
- Mound LA & Marullo R (1996) The Thrips of Central and South America: An Introduction. *Memoirs on Entomology, International* **6**: 1–488.
- Nakahara S (1988) Generic assignments of North American species currently assigned to the genus *Sericothrips* Haliday (Thysanoptera: Thripidae). *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington* **90**: 480–483.
- Nakahara S (1999) Validation of *Neohydatothrips samayunkur* (Kudo) (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) for a thrips damaging Marigolds (*Tagetes* spp.). *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington* **101**: 458–459.
- Stannard LJ (1968) The Thrips, or Thysanoptera, of Illinois. *Bulletin of the Illinois Natural History Survey* **29**: 213–552.