

Oxythrips occidentalis

Distinguishing features

This species has not been studied by the present authors. According to the description it is similar in structure to *O. pini* except that females have the tenth abdominal segment unusually elongate, almost tube-like. Variation in the length of this segment has been recorded within populations of *O. strobilus* from China (Cui *et al.*, 2017).

Related species

Three species were described from North America in the genus *Chilothrips*, but Zhang *et al.* (2018) synonymised that genus with *Oxythrips*. The two species from California described by Stannard (1973), *O. occidentalis* and *O. rotrameli*, both have the tenth abdominal tergite exceptionally elongate, whereas *C. pini* was described from Maryland with a more normal tenth tergite. The only specimens from California that have been studied by the present authors agree with the character states given for *C. pini*. In view of the variation in length of the tenth tergite within a population of *O. strobilus* in China (Cui *et al.*, 2017), there is a possibility that the two species from California are the same as the one from Maryland. Bailey (1957: 189) recorded the European species *Oxythrips quercicola* Bagnall from *Pinus* and *Quercus* in California, but subsequent examination of Bailey's specimens indicates that this was a misidentification.

Biological data

Recorded from *Cupressus pygmaea* [Cupressaceae], and presumably breeding in the male cones.

Distribution data

Known only from California.

Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

Species name

Oxythrips occidentalis (Stannard)

Original name and synonyms

Chilothrips occidentalis Stannard, 1973: 110

References

Bailey SF (1957) The thrips of California Part I: Suborder Terebrantia. *Bulletin of California Insect Survey*4: 143–220.

Cui YZ, Xi JH & Wang J (2017) Female polymorphism in *Chilothrips strobilus* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae), with the first description of the male. *Zootaxa* 4358 (1): 193–196.

Stannard LJ (1973) Two new species of *Chilothrips* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae). *Journal of the Kansas entomological Society*46: 107–115.

Zhang SM, Wang ZH, Li YJ & Mound LA (2018) One new species, two generic synonyms and eight new records of Thripidae from China (Thysanoptera). *Zootaxa* 4418 (4): 370–378.