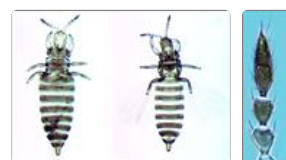


# Priesneriella citricauda

## Distinguishing features

Both sexes wingless, female rarely winged. Body, legs and antennae brown, tube mainly yellow but apex with transverse grey band and base light brown; pedicel of antennal segment III yellow. Antennae 6-segmented (segments VI, VII and VIII fused without suture); segment III small with no sense cones, IV with two sense cones. Head slightly longer than wide with convex cheeks, projecting slightly in front of eyes; compound eyes reduced to about 12 ommatidia that are irregular in size; postocular setae pointed. maxillary stylets band-like, wide apart and V-shaped within head; maxillary palps with terminal sensorium long and stout. Pronotum with five pairs of short major setae, only epimerals long and pointed; epimeral sutures complete; prosternal basantra present, mesopresternum eroded. Fore tarsus without tooth. Metanotum transverse, without sculpture, median setae long and acute. Pelta irregular medially, extending almost full width of tergite II anterior margin; tergite IX setae S1 shorter than setae S2, both pointed; tube shorter than head.

Males varying in size; large males with long fore tarsal tooth; tergite IX setae S1 and S2 similar in size.



Wingless & winged females



Antenna



Head & pronotum (wingless female)



Metanotum, pelta & tergite II



Segments VIII-X (tube)

## Related species

There are nine species listed in the genus *Priesneriella*, three from North America, four from Europe, and one each from New Zealand and West Africa. *P. thomasi* Hood from Texas has two sensoria on the third antennal segment, whereas *P. seminole* from Florida has only one. *P. citricauda* has also been found in the north of Western Australia, and is probably native to Australia despite previously being known only from one locality in California (Mound, 2007).

## Biological data

Apparently breeding in leaf litter, but also taken from dead branches. Feeding on spores of unidentified fungi in leaf litter and on dead *Salix*.

## Distribution data

Recorded only from California, and North Western Australia; possibly dispersed by the whaling industry.

## Family name

PHLAEOTHIRIPIDAE, IDOLOTHRIPINAE

## Species name

*Priesneriella citricauda* Hood

## Original name and synonyms

*Priesneriella citricauda* Hood, 1927: 199

## References

Mound LA (2007) New Australian spore-feeding Thysanoptera (Phlaeothripidae – Idolothripinae). *Zootaxa* **1604**: 53–68.

Mound LA & Palmer JM (1983) The generic and tribal classification of spore-feeding Thysanoptera (Phlaeothripidae: Idolothripinae). *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History). Entomology* **46**: 1–174.