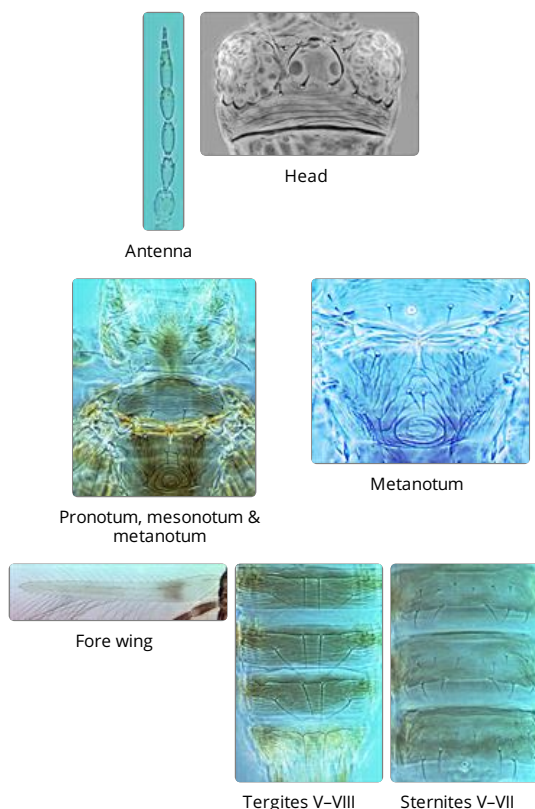


Psilothrips pardalotus

Distinguishing features

Female fully winged. Body yellow to light brown, head and pronotum usually mottled; fore wings weakly shaded. Antennae 8-segmented; segments III & IV each with a small forked sense cone. Head wider than long, ocellar region raised; three pairs of ocellar setae present, pair III on sides of triangle; compound eyes with six pigmented ommatidia. Pronotum with irregular transverse sculpture lines; one pair of prominent posteroangular setae, posterior margin with two pairs of setae. Metanotum with concentric reticulation on posterior half; median setae far back from anterior margin. Fore wing relatively broad; first vein with two setae distally, second vein with about 8 setae; costa with setae but no cilia; apex with small sub-apical lobe bearing many long microtrichia ventrally. Abdominal tergites with transverse reticulation medially; tergites II–VIII with median setae arising on antecostal ridge, longer than distance between their bases; tergites IV–VI with striate sculpture laterally bearing a few short microtrichia; tergite VIII with no posteromarginal comb. Sternites III–VII with about eight discal setae.



Related species

The genus *Psilothrips* includes five species, three from the Mediterranean region between the Canary Islands and India, and two from western USA (Minaei & Mound, 2015). These species are unusual in having a pair of long setae medially on each tergite that arise from the antecostal ridge.

Biological data

Presumably feeding on leaves, and recorded from *Atriplex*, *Allenrolfea*, and particularly *Sarcobatus vermiculatus* [Chenopodiaceae].

Distribution data

Known from Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, and Utah.

Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

Species name

Psilothrips pardalotus Hood

Original name and synonyms

Psilothrips pardalotus Hood, 1927: 198

References

Minaei K & Mound LA (2015) Thysanoptera disjunct distribution between western America and the Mediterranean with a new *Psilothrips* species (Thripidae) from Iran. *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift* 62(1): 1–7.