

# Sciothrips cardamomi

## Distinguishing features

Female macropterous. Body colour brown, legs and antennal segments III–VIII yellow; fore wings light brown with base pale. Antennae 8-segmented, III & IV slender each with a long forked sense cone. Head longer than wide and projecting in front of eyes, without sculpture between eyes; 2 pairs of ocellar setae present, pair III as long as distance between compound eyes and arising on anterior margins of ocellar triangle; postocular setae small and not in a single row. Pronotum transverse, inner pair of posteroangular setae longer than outer pair; posterior margin with only 1 pair of setae. Metanotal sculpture weak, campaniform sensilla absent, median setae short and arising behind anterior margin. Mesofurca with spinula. Fore wing first vein with 2 setae on distal half, second vein with about 5 widely spaced setae; clavus with 3 marginal setae, apical seta shorter than sub-apical seta. Tergites with transverse lines of sculpture medially, posterior margin of I–VII laterally with small microtrichia; tergite VIII with comb of long regular microtrichia. Sternites without discal setae, setae S1 on sternite VII arising in front of margin.



## Related species

The only species in *Sciothrips* is similar to the species of *Limothrips* and *Bregmatothrips* in the general appearance of its slender body, and with the head prolonged in front of the eyes. However, the tergites lack posteromarginal craspeda, and the genus is related to *Taeniothrips*, judging from the absence of ocellar setae pair I, and the long and regular posteromarginal comb on tergite VIII.

## Biological data

Breeding on young tissues of flowers and leaves, and sometimes common in rolled apical leaves, on certain Zingiberaceae, including *Hedygium gardnerianum* and *Elettaria cardamomum* (cultivated cardamom) .

## Distribution data

Asian in origin, this thrips is widespread in India and Bangladesh, also China (Hainan) and is introduced to Costa Rica (Mound & Marullo, 1996). It is also common in Hawaii, and although not known from California, it is a potential immigrant (Mound *et al.*, 2017).

## Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

## Species name

*Sciothrips cardamomi* (Ramakrishna)

## Original name and synonyms

*Taeniothrips cardamomi* Ramakrishna, 1935: 357

## References

Mound LA & Marullo R (1996) The Thrips of Central and South America: An Introduction. *Memoirs on Entomology, International* 6: 1–488.

Mound LA, Matsunaga J, Bushe B, Hoddle MS & Wells A (2017) Adventive Thysanoptera Species on the Hawaiian Islands: New Records and Putative Host Associations. *Proceedings of the Hawaiian Entomological Society* 49: 17–28.

