

Thrips helvolus

Distinguishing features

Described from four females, this species has not been studied by the present authors. A yellow species, with no sternal discal setae, it differs from the tropical pest species, *T. palmi*, in having only three setae on the lateral margins of the second abdominal tergite.

Related species

T. helvolus has been compared to two other North American members of the genus (Nakahara, 1994: 67), including *T. heraclei*. The genus *Thrips* is the second largest genus in the Thysanoptera, and currently includes, worldwide, about 295 species. All members of the genus lack ocellar setae I on the head, and they all have ctenidia on tergite VIII posteromesad to the spiracles. Other characters, such as number of antennal segments, number of setae on the fore wing veins, and number of discal setae on the sternites are variable between species (Palmer, 1992; Mound & Masumoto, 2005).

Biological data

Nothing is known of the biology of this species.

Distribution data

Known only from California.

Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

Species name

Thrips helvolus Nakahara

Original name and synonyms

Thrips helvolus Nakahara, 1994: 67

References

Mound LA & Masumoto M (2005) The genus *Thrips* (Thysanoptera, Thripidae) in Australia, New Caledonia and New Zealand. *Zootaxa* 1020: 1–64.

Nakahara S (1994) The genus *Thrips* Linnaeus (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) of the New World. *United States Department of Agriculture. Technical Bulletin* 1822: 1–183.

Palmer JM (1992) *Thrips* (Thysanoptera) from Pakistan to the Pacific: a review. *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History) Entomology Series* 61 (1): 1–76.