

# Thrips orientalis

## Distinguishing features

Both sexes fully winged. Body and legs brown, but tarsi and apices of tibiae yellow; antennal segments III–VII paler than I–II; III mainly yellow, also base of IV & V; fore wings brown with base scarcely paler but with small white spot near venal fork.

Antennae 7-segmented, III & IV each with forked sense cone.

Head wider than long, ocellar setae pair III small and arising on anterior margins of ocellar triangle; postocular setae pairs I & III slightly shorter than ocellar setae III, postocular pair II minute.

Pronotum with 2 pairs of long posteroangular setae; posterior margin with 3 pairs of setae. Metanotum reticulate medially, reticles with conspicuous internal sculptured markings; median setae arising behind anterior margin; campaniform sensilla absent. Fore wing second vein with complete row of setae; setal row on first vein highly variable on distal half, from almost complete to only 2 setae medially and 4 distally; clavus with 5 marginal setae, terminal seta shorter than subterminal. Tergite II with 3 lateral marginal setae; tergite VIII posterior margin with comb absent medially but with a few short microtrichia laterally; pleurotergites without discal setae. Sternal discal setae variable, absent on VII, 0–2 setae on II, but 1–3 on III–VI and placed laterally.

Male brown; tergite VIII with no posteromarginal comb; sternites III–VII each with broad transverse pore plate, discal setae often not developed.

## Related species

This Oriental species is recorded from Florida but is not established in western USA, although it has been intercepted in quarantine in California several times on produce imported from Hawaii. It is one of a small group of Asian *Thrips* species, including *Thrips parvispinus*, in which discal setae are present on abdominal sternites III to VI but not on sternite VII. However, *T. orientalis* is variable in the chaetotaxy of the first vein on the fore wing, and also in the number of discal setae on the sternites. Rarely, a female is found with just a single discal seta on one sternite only, and such an individual is easy to misidentify. *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; Nakahara, 1994; Mound & Masumoto, 2005).

## Biological data

Feeding and breeding in flowers, particularly in the flowers of *Jasminum*, *Gardenia* and *Plumeria*.

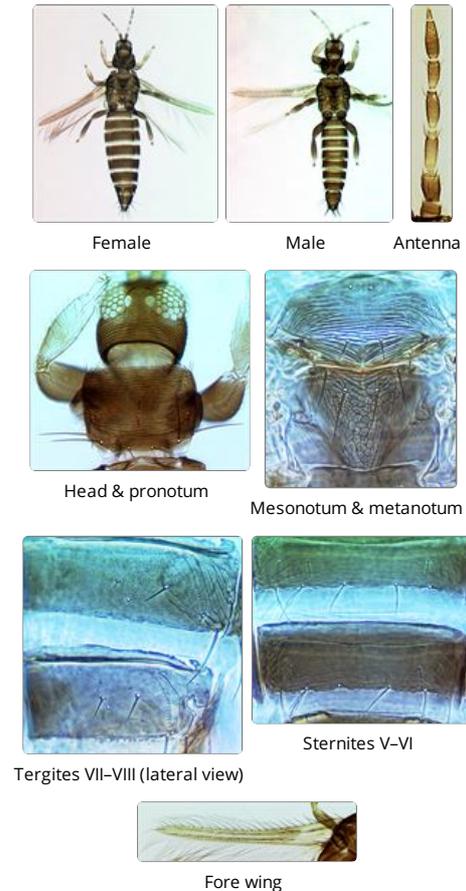
## Distribution data

Widespread in Asia, from India, through Thailand and Malaysia to southern China and Japan; also northern Australia, New Caledonia, Tahiti and Hawaii in the Pacific region. Also recorded from Trinidad, Florida and Virgin islands in the Caribbean, and from Tanzania in Africa. [Not yet recorded from California.]

## Family name

THRIPIDAE - THRIPINAE

## Species name



*Thrips orientalis* (Bagnall)

### Original name and synonyms

*Isoneurothrips orientalis* Bagnall, 1915: 593

*Thrips setipennis* Steinweden & Moulton, 1930: 25

*Thrips hispidipennis* Hood, 1932: 122.

### 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.