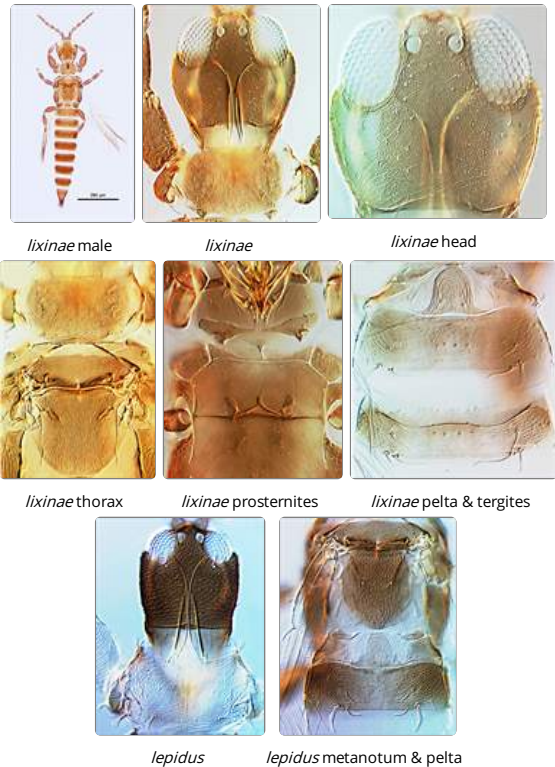


# Azaleothrips

## Generic diagnosis

Small sized macropterous Phlaeothripinae with dorsal surface strongly sculptured. Head slightly longer than wide; postocular setae short and expanded, arising behind inner margin of eyes; maxillary stylets retracted to eyes, close together medially; mouth cone pointed. Antennae 8-segmented, segments VII–VIII closely joined; III with 2 or 3 sense cones, IV with 4 sense cones usually. Pronotum sculptured with fine lines or rows of small tubercles; notopleural sutures complete. Prosternal basantra absent or present; mesopresternum transverse but slender; metathoracic sternopleural sutures present. Fore tarsal tooth present or absent. Fore wings weakly constricted medially, with duplicated cilia. Pelta hat-shaped in macropterae; tergites II–VII with two pairs of wing-retaining setae, tergite VIII often with an additional pair of short and simply curved wing-retaining setae; tergites III–VIII with dentate or ciliate microtrichia along sculptured striae; S1 setae on tergite IX expanded at apex; tube shorter than head; anal setae usually longer than tube. Male sternite VIII with large pore plate.



## Nomenclatural data

*Azaleothrips* Ananthakrishnan, 1964: 220. Type species *Azaleothrips amabilis* Ananthakrishnan 1964, by monotypy.

There are 38 species listed in this genus, mostly from Asia but with four species from Australia (ThripsWiki, 2021).

## Australian species

*Azaleothrips lepidus* Okajima, 1978: 386

*Azaleothrips lixinae* Mound & Tree, 2015: 327

*Azaleothrips moundi* Okajima, 1976: 19

*Azaleothrips perniger* (Girault, 1929: 2)

## Relationship data

This genus is considered a member of the *Idiothrips*-group of genera in the Phlaeothripinae (Mound & Tree 2015).

## Distribution data

Species of *Azaleothrips* have been found widely across Asia, from India to Japan. One Asian species has been found near Darwin, two species are known from Queensland and one from South Australia.

## Biological data

The members of this genus are found on dead branches, where they presumably feed on fungal hyphae.

## References

Mound LA & Tree DJ (2015) Fungus-feeding Thysanoptera: Phlaeothripinae of the *Idiothrips* genus-group in Australia, with nine new species. *Zootaxa* **4034** (2): 325–341.

Okajima S & Masumoto M (2014) Species-richness in the Oriental fungus-feeding thrips of the genus *Azaleothrips* (Thysanoptera, Phlaeothripidae). *Zootaxa* **3846** (3): 301–347.

ThripsWiki (2021) ThripsWiki - providing information on the World's thrips. Available from: <http://thrips.info/wiki/> (Accessed 1.xii.2021)

