

Brakothrips

Generic diagnosis

Small, usually dark and apterous Phlaeothripinae, with many setae short and broad. Head with eyes smaller dorsally than ventrally; mouth-cone long, extending across prosternum. Antennae 8-segmented, III with skirt-like flange at base; segment III with 1 or 0 sense cones, IV with 2 sense cones; VI–VIII or VII–VIII broadly united. Pronotum with notopleural sutures complete, sometimes extended forward on dorsal surface. Prosternal basantra not present, ferna transverse; meso-presternum reduced to two triangles; meso-eusternum anterior margin sometimes eroded medially; metathoracic sterno-pleural sutures well developed. Meso- and metanota transverse, metanotum with numerous setae. Fore tarsus with small tooth in both sexes. Fore wing, when present, without duplicated cilia. Pelta broad; tergites II–VII with one pair of major marginal setae, discal setae numerous, blunt to broadly flattened, commonly in two or more transverse rows; tergite IX setae short and broad; tube shorter than head. Male sternite VIII usually without pore plate.

Nomenclatural data

Brakothrips Crespi, Morris & Mound, 2004: 146. Type species *Brakothrips gillesi* Crespi, Morris & Mound, 2004 by monotypy.

There are eight species recognised in this Australian endemic genus.

Australian species

- Brakothrips bullus* Crespi, Morris & Mound, 2004: 147
- Brakothrips eucalypti* Mound & Wells 2020: 204
- Brakothrips gillesi* Crespi, Morris & Mound, 2004: 147
- Brakothrips maafi* Crespi, Morris & Mound, 2004: 148
- Brakothrips meandarra* Crespi, Morris & Mound, 2004: 148
- Brakothrips pilbara* Crespi, Morris & Mound, 2004: 149
- Brakothrips sculptilis* Crespi, Morris & Mound, 2004: 149
- Brakothrips stenos* Crespi, Morris & Mound, 2004: 150

Relationship data

The genus is considered a member of the *Rhopalothripoides* suite of Phlaeothripinae genera that are found on *Acacia* trees in Australia.

Distribution data

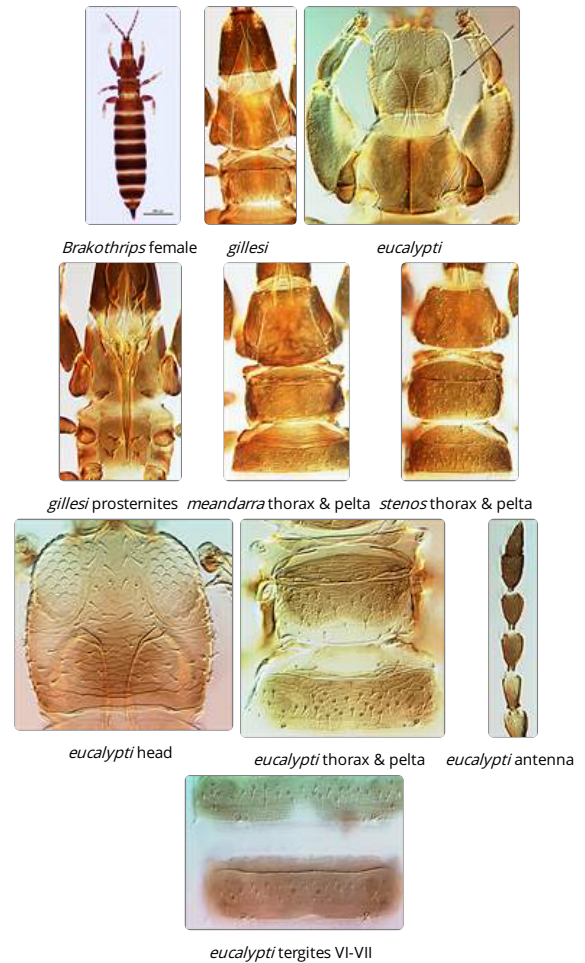
Various members of this genus have been found widely across the drier areas of the Australian continent, and several undescribed species are known to exist.

Biological data

The species are found under splits in the bark of young branches of various *Acacia* trees, but with one species described from a similar habitat on *Eucalyptus cinerea* (Mound & Wells, 2020).

References

Crespi BJ, Morris DC & Mound LA (2004) *Evolution of ecological and behavioural diversity: Australian Acacia thrips as*



model organisms. Australian Biological Resources Study & Australian National Insect Collection, CSIRO, Canberra, Australia, pp. 1–328.

Mound LA & Wells A (2020) Host-shifts at family level in the Australian *Acacia*-thrips lineage (Thysanoptera, Phlaeothripinae) with two new species. *Zootaxa* 4816 (2): 202–208.