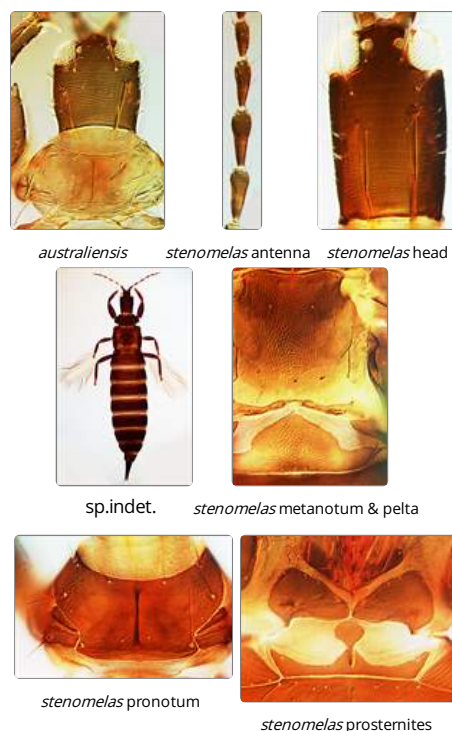


Ethirotrips

Generic diagnosis

Medium to large, usually macropterous *Idolothripinae*. Head usually longer than wide, slightly produced in front of eyes; postocular setae elongate, postocellar setae short or long; genae almost straight to weakly convex or sinuate, with a few short setae. Eyes rather small, less than 0.3 of head length; mouth-cone short and rounded; maxillary stylets often retracted to postocular setae or compound eyes, wide apart, V-shaped or subparallel. Antennae 8-segmented; segment III with 2 sense-cones, IV with 4 or even 5. Pronotum shorter than head, usually with median longitudinal apodeme; notopleural sutures complete. Prosternal basantra, ferna and mesopresternum present; metathoracic sternopleural sutures absent. Fore tarsal tooth present in males, present or absent in females; fore tibia often with tubercle at inner apex. Fore wings with duplicated cilia. Pelta broad with lateral wings narrow to broadly entire; tergites II–VII each with one pair of sigmoid wing-retaining setae. Tube variable, usually with straight sides, often rather convex and robust; anal setae shorter than tube.



Nomenclatural data

Liothrips (Ethirotrips) Karny, 1925: 133. Type species *Liothrips thomasseti* Bagnall (= *Phlaeothrips stenomelas* Walker), by subsequent designation of Priesner, 1949: 129.

There are 37 species listed in this genus, all from the Old World tropics (ThripsWiki, 2021).

Australian species

Ethirotrips acanthus (Hood, 1919: 88).

Ethirotrips australiensis (Moulton, 1968: 95).

Ethirotrips barretti (Mound, 1974: 94).

Ethirotrips distasmus (Mound, 1974: 97).

Ethirotrips dracon (Karny, 1920: 43).

Ethirotrips elephas (Karny, 1920: 43).

Ethirotrips giraulti (Hood, 1918: 148).

Ethirotrips io (Girault, 1926: 1).

Ethirotrips latapennis (Moulton, 1968: 119).

Ethirotrips stenomelas (Walker, 1859: 224).

Ethirotrips sybarita (Mound, 1974: 100).

Relationship data

This is the largest of the 13 genera in the *Idolothripinae*, *Pygothripini*, *Macrothripina*. There is considerable variation in size and body form among the included species, and *Herathrips* is presumably closely related.

Distribution data

Although *australiensis* lives along the coast of South Australia, the other species of this genus are mainly from the northern tropics and subtropics, with *stenomelas* widely recorded around the world in tropical areas.

Biological data

The species in this genus all feed on fungal spores on the dead branches of various trees, with *australiensis* found on dead *Eucalyptus* branches and *stenomelas* often associated with dead fronds of coconut palm trees.

References

Mound LA (1974) Spore-feeding Thrips (Phlaeothripidae) from Leaf Litter and Dead Wood in Australia. *Australian Journal of Zoology*. Supplement 27: 1-106.

Mound LA & Palmer JM (1983) The generic and tribal classification of spore-feeding Thysanoptera (Phlaeothripidae: Idolothripinae). *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History) Entomology* 46: 1-174.

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