

# Liothrips

## Generic diagnosis

Small to medium sized, dark, macropterous Phlaeothripinae with long dark setae. Head usually longer than wide, vertex transversely striate but reticulate on ocellar region; postocular setae long; mouth-cone long or short; maxillary stylets usually not retracted as far as postocular setae, and rarely close together. Antennae 8-segmented; segment III with one sense cone, IV with 3 (+1) sense cones; VIII slightly constricted at base. Pronotum transverse, with 5 pairs of long major setae; notopleural sutures complete. Prosternal basantra absent; ferna well developed; mesopresternum usually absent medially; metathoracic sternopleural sutures present but sometimes weak. Fore tarsal tooth absent in both sexes. Fore wings not constricted medially, with duplicated cilia. Pelta triangular; tergites II-VII each with two pairs of sigmoid wing-retaining setae; tergite IX setae S1 and S2 usually long and pointed. Male tergite IX setae S2 shorter and stouter than S1; sternite VIII with pore plate.

## Nomenclatural data

*Liothrips* Uzel, 1895: 261. Type species *Phloeothrips setinodis* Reuter 1880, designated by Hood, 1918.

There are rather more than 270 species listed in this genus (ThripsWiki, 2021).

## Australian species

*Liothrips brevifemur* Girault, 1928: 2  
*Liothrips chavicae* (Zimmermann, 1900: 14)  
*Liothrips pallipes* (Karny, 1913: 110)  
*Liothrips soror* (Hood, 1918: 138)  
*Liothrips takahashii* (Moulton, 1928: 313)  
*Liothrips tenuis* Hood, 1918: 133  
*Liothrips umbratus* Hood, 1918: 132  
*Liothrips vaneeckeii* Priesner, 1920: 211

## Relationship data

This is the largest genus in the Phlaeothripinae, but in Australia it is effectively replaced by the closely related genus *Teuchothrips*. In Australia there are many undescribed species in this group of genera, requiring extensive field work to establish host associations and the extent of within-species structural variation.

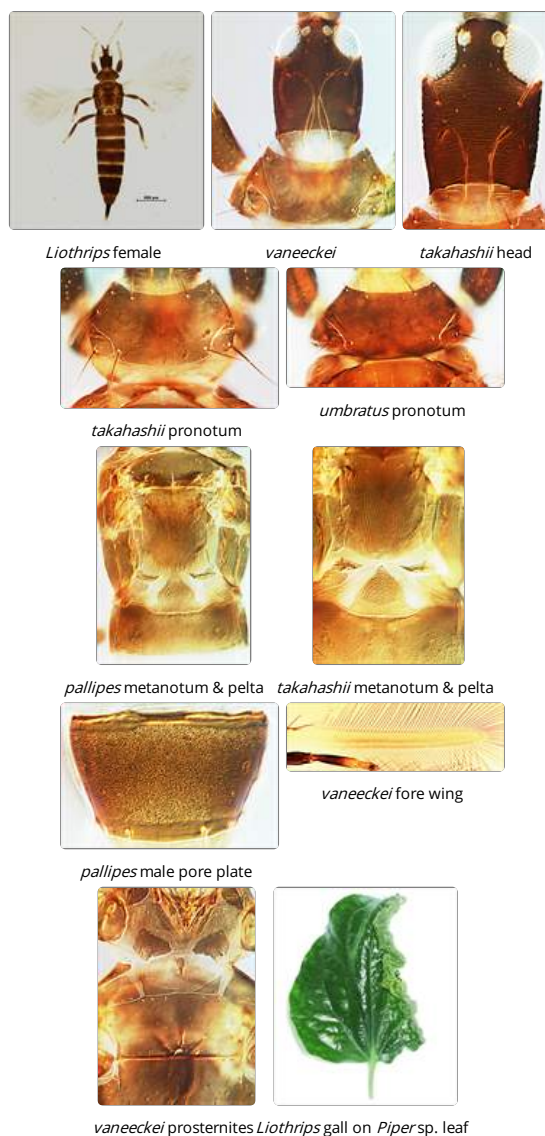
## Distribution data

The genus is found worldwide, mainly in the tropics and with most named species from tropical Asia. Five of the eight species listed from Australia are from Queensland, but *vaneeckeii* is reported around the world on lily bulbs.

## Biological data

The members of this genus are all leaf-feeding, sometimes inducing rolled-leaf galls. However, *L. vaneeckeii* is known as a minor pest of *Lilium* bulbs, and *L. takahashii* lives in leaf-galls induced by *Gynaikothrips* species on *Ficus* species where it is probably an inquiline rather than a predator.

## References



Mound LA (2008) Identification and host associations of some Thysanoptera Phlaeothripinae described from Australia pre-1930. *Zootaxa* 1714: 41–60.

Mound LA (2020) *Liothrips* species (Thysanoptera, Phlaeothripinae) from leaf-galls on *Piper* species in Southeast Asia and Australia. *Zootaxa* 4830 (2): 383–391.

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