

# Neosmerinthothrips

## Generic diagnosis

Medium sized macropterous or micropterous Idolothripinae. Head longer than wide or slightly wider than long; postocular setae well developed; postocellar setae short; eyes not prolonged ventrally; maxillary stylets V-shaped within head. Antennae 8-segmented; III with 2 sense cones, IV with 4 sense cones, VIII short but not sharply constricted basally. Pronotal notopleural sutures complete. Prosternal basantra present; metathoracic sternopleural sutures present. Metanotal median setae weak. Fore tarsal tooth present in male, present or absent in female. Fore wings with duplicated cilia. Pelta broadly hat-shaped; tergites II–VII each with one pair of wing-retaining setae; tergite IX setae usually elongate; tube rather robust with slightly convex sides, sometimes with setal bearing small tubercles.

## Nomenclatural data

*Neosmerinthothrips* Schmutz, 1913: 1051. Type species *Neosmerinthothrips fructuum* Schmutz, by monotypy.

There are 23 species worldwide in this genus (ThripsWiki, 2021), with two known only from Australia.

## Australian species

*Neosmerinthothrips barrowi* Mound & Tree, 2021: 172

*Neosmerinthothrips turrbali* Mound & Tree, 2021: 173

## Relationship data

This genus remains weakly diagnosed within the Idolothripinae, Pygothripini, Diceratothripina. It shares many character states with *Nesothrips* but the tube is more robust.

## Distribution data

Members of this genus have been described from countries throughout the tropics, and the two described from Australia were both taken in the north of this continent.

## Biological data

From the gut contents it is clear that members of this genus imbibe whole fungal spores.

## References

Mound LA & Tree DJ (2021) Tubuliferous Thysanoptera in Australia with an enlarged tenth abdominal segment (Phlaeothripidae, Idolothripinae), including six new species. *Zootaxa*, 4951 (1): 167–181.

Okajima S (2006) *The Insects of Japan*. Volume 2. The suborder Tubulifera (Thysanoptera). Fukuoka: Touka Shobo Co. Ltd. pp. 1–720.

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

