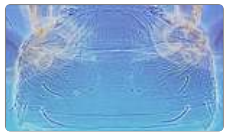
Panoplothrips

Generic diagnosis

australiensis head & fore legs



australiensis pelta

australiensis prosternites

australiensis female

Macropterous dark brown Phlaeothripinae. Head slightly prolonged in front of eyes; genae very weakly sinuate medially, constricted to basal neck; eyes larger dorsally than ventrally; maxillary stylets wide apart and low in head. Antennae 8-segmented, segment III with one sense cone, IV with 2 sense cones. Pronotum relatively elongate, notopleural sutures complete, posteroangular setae long, epimeral setae short and stout. Prosternal basantra not developed, ferna elongate with median margins closely parallel; mesopresternum reduced to 2 lateral triangles; metathoracic sternopleural sutures short and slender. Femora stout, with curved tubercle on inner margin; fore tibia without a tubercle; fore tarsal tooth long and slender in both sexes. Fore wing broad, distal cilia short, without duplicated cilia; sub-basal setae short. Mesonotum with posteromedian cleft deep and irregular, lateral setae short. Metanotum reticulate medially. Pelta anterior margin rounded; tergites II–VII each with 2 pairs of sigmoid wing-retaining setae; tergite IX setae S1 long, S2 short and slender in both sexes; posterior margin of tergite IX relatively broad; tube shorter than head, flared at base. Male smaller than female but similar in structure, sternite VIII without pore plate.

Nomenclatural data

Panoplothrips Moulton, 1968: 107. Type species *Panoplothrips australiensis* Moulton, 1968, by monotypy.

Only one species is recognised in this genus.

Australian species

Panoplothrips australiensis Moulton, 1968: 108

Relationship data

An unusual species that is possibly related to species of *Truncatothrips* or *Paracholeothrips*.

Distribution data

The distribution of this genus is restricted by the distribution of its host plant across dry areas of northern Australia. .

Biological data

This species creates domiciles on *Acacia shirleyi*, lancewood, by glueing together pairs of phyllodes.

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.