

Teuchothrips

Generic diagnosis

Small to medium, dark, macropterous or micropterous Phlaeothripinae with dark setae. Head usually longer than wide, genae weakly convex, 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 (rarely only 2); VIII usually short and not sharply constricted from VII. Pronotum transverse, with 4 (rarely 5) pairs of 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 or without 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

Teuchothrips Hood, 1919: 86. Type species *Teuchothrips simplicipennis* Hood, 1919, by original designation.

There are 24 species listed in this genus (ThripsWiki, 2021).

Australian species

Teuchothrips acripilus (Karny, 1920: 39)
Teuchothrips ater (Girault, 1927: 2)
Teuchothrips badiipennis Hood, 1919: 87
Teuchothrips burroughsi (Girault, 1929: 29)
Teuchothrips clavipilus (Karny, 1920: 39)
Teuchothrips connatus (Hood, 1918: 135)
Teuchothrips disjunctus (Hood, 1918: 134)
Teuchothrips froggatti (Bagnall, 1924: 637)
Teuchothrips longiseta (Girault, 1926: 1)
Teuchothrips melaleucaae (Girault, 1926: 1)
Teuchothrips minor Bagnall, 1929: 193
Teuchothrips simplicipennis Hood, 1919: 87
Teuchothrips sodalis Bagnall, 1929: 190

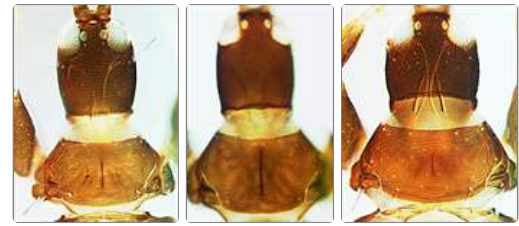
Relationship data

This genus is closely related to *Liothrips* and the species involved share most character states. At present, *Liothrips* species are distinguished by the presence of all five pairs of elongate pronotal major setae. *Sunaitiothrips* is also closely related, but has the head curiously parallel-sided.

Distribution data

Of the 24 species listed in this genus five are known only from New Caledonia, 13 are from Australia, mainly Queensland but with two of these also found in New Zealand, and the others from southeast Asia.

Biological data



ater

disjunctus

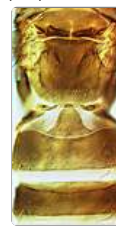
simplicipennis



simplicipennis Mac. thorax & pelta



simplicipennis Mic. thorax & pelta



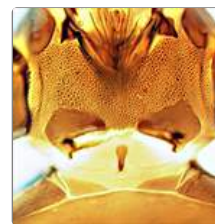
disjunctus metanotum & pelta



disjunctus antenna



simplicipennis antenna



disjunctus prosternites



simplicipennis prosternites



ater male tergites IX-X



disjunctus female



simplicipennis male sternite VIII

The species of this genus feed and breed on green leaves, and commonly induce leaf galls. There appear to be many undescribed species in Australia. However, their identification is particularly confusing due to variation in body structure and chaetotaxy within and between populations, and even the number of sense cones on antennal segment IV sometimes differing between the left and right antennae. The genus is widespread across Australia, with *disjunctus* a minor horticultural pest on *Calistemon* leaves, and *ater* also widespread inducing leaf-roll galls on *Pittosporum* and *Bursaria* leaves.

References

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

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