

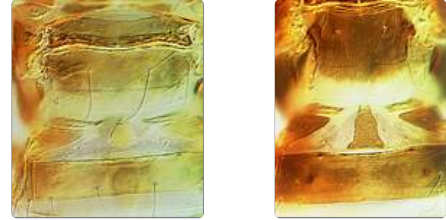
# Thaumatothrips

## Generic diagnosis

Medium sized, macropterous and micropterous Phlaeothripinae with tooth-bearing fore femora. Head clearly longer than wide but scarcely longer than wide in small males; postocular setae long, but vertex of micropterae with 2 pairs of very long slender setae; mouth cone short, rounded; maxillary stylets retracted to near postocular setae and close together medially. Antennae 8-segmented, relatively short, segment III with one sense cone, IV with 3 sense cones. Pronotum much narrower than prothorax; with 5 pairs of capitate major setae in macropterae, but 6 pairs of very long and slender setae in micropterae; notopleural sutures complete. Prosternal basantra absent; ferna large; mesopresternum reduced to 2 triangles; metathoracic sternopleural sutures long. Fore wings broad, with 12–18 duplicated cilia. Fore tarsal tooth massive; fore femora swollen with 4 teeth on inner margin. Pelta elongate triangular, but eroded in micropterae; tergites II–VII each with 2 pairs of sigmoid wing-retaining setae, but these setae straight and long in micropterae; tergal lateral setae capitate in macropterae but very long and slender in micropterae; tergite IX setae about as long as tube; tube shorter than head. Male tergite IX S2 shorter than S1; sternites without pore plates.



*froggatti* microptera *froggatti* macroptera *froggatti* microptera



*froggatti* Mic. metanotum & pelta *froggatti* Mac. metanotum & pelta



*froggatti* fore leg

## Nomenclatural data

*Thaumatothrips* Karny, 1922: 267. Type species *Thaumatothrips froggatti* Karny, 1922, by monotypy.

Only one species is recognised in this genus.

## Australian species

*Thaumatothrips froggatti* Karny, 1922: 268

## Relationship data

The structurally aberrant species for which this genus was erected is probably derived within the *Liothrips*-lineage, and it is possibly related to *Kladothrips*, the gall-inducing thrips on *Acacia* trees in Australia.

## Distribution data

Recorded from both north eastern and northwestern Australia.

## Biological data

This species is a kleptoparasite, invading the woody galls induced by *Iotatubothrips* species on small branches of at least two species of *Casuarina* trees, *C. cristata* in eastern Australia and *C. obesa* in northwestern Australia.

## References

Mound LA & Crespi BJ (1992) The complex of phlaeothripine thrips (Insecta, Thysanoptera) in woody stem galls of *Casuarina* in Australia. *Journal of Natural History* 26: 395–406.

Mound LA, Crespi BJ & Tucker A (1998) Polymorphism and kleptoparasitism in thrips (Thysanoptera: Phlaeothripidae) from woody galls on *Casuarina* trees. *Australian Journal of Entomology* 37: 8–16.