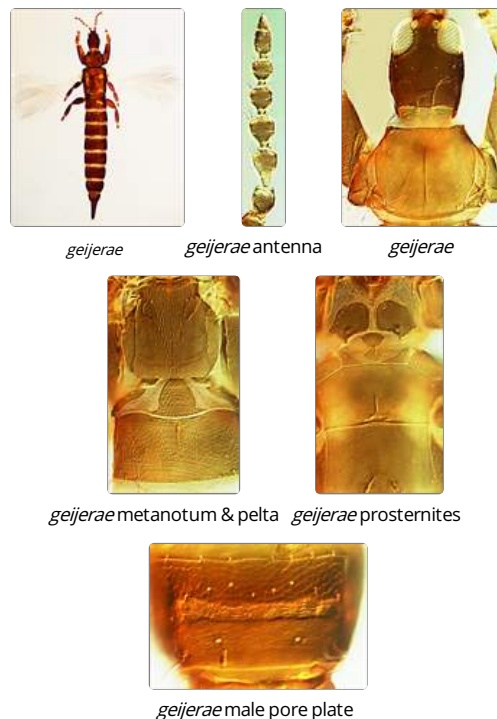


# Moultonides

## Generic diagnosis

Moderately large, brown, macropterous Phlaeothripinae. Head not produced in front of eyes, antennae arising a little ventrally with first ocellus projecting; genae with one pair of small setae in basal third; postocular setae acute, shorter than eyes; mouth cone short and rounded, stylets not retracted to postocular setae. Antennae 8-segmented; III with 3 sense cones, IV with 4; IV–VII with sharply defined basal stem, VIII broadly joined to VII. Pronotum about as long as head, not reduced in males; only epimeral setae and posteroangular setae well developed; notopleural sutures complete. Prosternal basantra absent; ferna frequently with anterior margins extended forwards; mesopresternum of two triangles; metathoracic sternopleural sutures long. Mesonotum and median longitudinal part of metanotum reticulate; mesonotal midlateral setae acute, shorter than metanotal median setae. Fore tarsi with tooth in both sexes; fore tibia without tubercle; fore coxae and fore femora usually large. Fore wings broad, slightly constricted medially, with about 20 duplicated cilia. Pelta slightly wider than long; tergites II–VII with 2 pairs of sigmoid wing-retaining setae, anterior tergites with small lateral setae in addition; median tergal campaniform sensilla large and close together; antecostal ridge concave around median longitudinal thickening; tergite IX setae less than one third as long as tube; anal setae less than half as long as tube; tube of female with irregular longitudinal ridges. Sternites V–VII with weak specialised reticulate areas. Male sternite VIII with transverse pore plate.



## Nomenclatural data

*Moultonides* Kevin, 1963: 281. Replacement name for *Moultonia* Bagnall 1928: 199 [not *Moultonia* Bolivar - Orthoptera]. Type species *Dolerothrips geijerae* Moulton 1927, by monotypy.

Only one species is known in this genus.

## Australian species

*Moultonides geijerae* (Moulton, 1927: 157)

## Relationship data

This is one of three closely related genera that are found only on the leaves of *Geijera*. The single species placed in *Moultonides* differs from the species of *Choleothrips* in lacking a tooth at the inner apex of the fore tibiae. The relationships of these genera are not clear. They probably represent a single lineage, but the absence of prosternal basantra suggests that they are not related to members of the Haplothripini.

## Distribution data

An Australian endemic that is known only from the western slopes of the Great Dividing Range in eastern Australia.

## Biological data

The only species in this genus lives in leaf galls on the shrub *Geijera parviflora*, but there is no evidence that it induces these galls as it is usually found in association with the gall-inducing species of the genera *Choleothrips* and *Sacothrips*.

## References

Mound LA (1971) The complex of Thysanoptera in rolled leaf galls on *Geijera*. *Journal of the Australian Entomological Society* 10: 83–97.

