

Triadothrips

Generic diagnosis

Macropterous, yellow or brown polymorphic Phlaeothripinae. Head with one or more pairs of stout cheek setae, genae convex and narrowing to base; eyes considerably longer dorsally than ventrally; postocular setae wide apart, usually longer than their distance from posterior margin of eye; maxillary stylelets retracted to postocular setae, about one third of head width apart, maxillary bridge present. Antennae 8-segmented, III & IV with apex constricted to short neck, each with 3 sense cones. Pronotum smooth, median longitudinal apodeme present or absent; notopleural sutures complete, posteroangular and epimeral setae long. Prosternal basantra not developed but chitinous islets large; ferna with anterior margin transverse; mesopresternum reduced to two lateral triangles; metathoracic sternopleural sutures long. Metanotum reticulate medially. Fore femora sometimes with tubercle on inner margin near base, in males subject to allometry; fore tibia without tubercle; fore tarsal tooth absent in female, but present and usually forwardly directed in male. Fore wing parallel-sided, with about 10 duplicated cilia. Pelta longer than wide; tergites II–VII with 2 pairs of wing-retaining setae, on II and VII almost straight; tergite IX setae S1 shorter than S2 and S3 in female, tube with anal setae dark and nearly twice as long as tube. Male sternite VIII without pore plate; tergite IX usually with setae S2 long and slender;



arckaringa

hesmus



briga male head & pronotum *briga* small male head & thorax



briga female head & thorax

Nomenclatural data

Triadothrips Crespi, Morris & Mound, 2004: 288. Type species *Triadothrips briga* Crespi, Morris & Mound, 2004, by original designation.

There are three species recognised in this genus.

Australian species

Triadothrips arckaringa Crespi, Morris & Mound, 2004: 290

Triadothrips briga Crespi, Morris & Mound, 2004: 290

Triadothrips hesmus Crespi, Morris & Mound, 2004: 290

Relationship data

Molecular data suggest that this genus is related to other genera of kleptoparasitic Phlaeothripinae that live on *Acacia* phyllodes in Australia.

Distribution data

These species have been found only in semi-arid areas across eastern Australia.

Biological data

The species are kleptoparasites that invade domiciles constructed by *Lichanothrips* and *Paracholeothrips* species on *Acacia* 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.

