

# Acanthothrips

## Generic diagnosis

Moderately large, dark brown macropterous Phlaeothripinae, with armed fore femora. Head longer than wide; cheeks with prominent bristle-bearing warts; eyes larger dorsally than ventrally; maxillary stylets long, close together medially and retracted to eyes; postocular setae small, capitate, posterior to inner margin of eyes; mouth cone pointed, extending across prosternum. Antennae 8-segmented; segments III–VI constricted to apical neck; III and IV both with 3 stout sense cones. Pronotum with 5 pairs of capitate major setae, none of them very long; notopleural sutures complete; prosternal basantra absent; ferna large, meeting medially; mesopresternum complete; metathoracic sternopleural sutures long. Both sexes with fore tarsal tooth prominent, and fore femora with sub-apical tubercle on inner margin. Fore wings parallel sided, with duplicated cilia. Pelta reticulate, triangular; tergites II–VII each with 2 pairs of sigmoid wing-retaining setae; tergite IX setae S1 blunt at apex, shorter than tube; tube shorter than head. Male tergite IX setae S2 short and stout; sternite VIII with median transverse pore plate.



*A. albivittatus* Antenna *A. nodicornis* Antenna *A. nodicornis* Antenna



*A. nodicornis* Head *A. nodicornis* Metanotum & pelta



*A. nodicornis* Fore femur

## Nomenclature

*Acanthothrips* Uzel, 1895: 259. Type species *Phloeothrips nodicornis* Reuter 1880, by monotypy.

There are 13 species listed in this genus (ThripsWiki, 2023).

### Euro-Mediterranean species

*Acanthothrips nodicornis* (Reuter, 1880)

*Acanthothrips albivittatus* (Schille, 1911)

## Distribution

Although *albovittatus* was described from Poland, and *nodicornis* is widespread across the Holarctic (Mound *et al.*, 2018), the other 13 species in this genus are known only from North or South America.

## Biology

The species in this genus live on dead stems and branches of deciduous trees, presumably feeding on fungal hyphae or the breakdown products of fungal decay.

## Relationships

This genus seems to be related to *Hoplandrothrips* and to *Phlaeothrips*, two genera that are also widely distributed and in which the species have similar biologies.

## References

Mound LA, Collins DW, Hastings A (2018). *Thysanoptera Britannica et Hibernica - Thrips of the British Isles*. Lucidcentral.org, Identic Pty Ltd, Queensland, Australia. [https://keys.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/british\\_thrips/index.html](https://keys.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/british_thrips/index.html)

Priesner H (1964) Ordnung Thysanoptera (Fransenflügler, Thripse). in Franz H, *Bestimmungsbücher zur Bodenfauna Europas* 2: 1–242. Akademie-Verlag.

ThripsWiki (2023). *ThripsWiki - providing information on the World's thrips*. <[http://thrips.info/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://thrips.info/wiki/Main_Page)>

