

Biltothrips

Generic diagnosis

Female macropterous. Head wider than long, transversely striate; maxillary palps long, 3-segmented; eyes without pigmented facets; ocellar setae I absent; setae III small and close together within triangle; five pairs of postocular setae. Antennae 8-segmented; segment I without paired dorso-apical setae; III and IV with apex slightly elongate, sense cones long and forked; II with microtrichial rows dorsally, III–VI with rows of microtrichia on both surfaces. Pronotum transversely striate, with no long setae. Mesonotal median setae distant from posterior margin; anteromedian campaniform sensilla absent. Metanotum with transverse and longitudinal sculpture; median pair of setae at anterior margin; campaniform sensilla absent. Fore wing first vein with three widely spaced setae on distal half; second vein without setae; clavus with three veinal and one discal setae; posteromarginal fringe cilia straight. Prosternal ferna slender but not quite connected medially; basantra membranous, without setae; prospinasternum very slender and transverse. Meso and metafurca with spinula. Tarsi 2-segmented. Tergites with setae S1 wide apart and close to S2; lateral thirds of tergites with closely spaced rows of microtrichia; VII and VIII with posteromarginal comb of long fine microtrichia; IX without campaniform sensilla; X without split. Sternites III–VI with many rows of microtrichia across entire surface, but only on lateral thirds of VII; setae S1 on VII submarginal.

Male similar to female; sternites without pore plates; tergite IX without drepanae or stout setae.



Head & pronotum

Tergites VI-IX

Relationship data

Thripidae sub-family Thripinae: this is a diverse group involving more than 230 genera. *Biltothrips* is closely related to *Scirtothrips*, differing in the more widely spaced median setae on the tergites (Ng & Mound, 2016).

Biological data

Often associated with the leaves of cassava (*Manihot esculenta*) [Euphorbiaceae] but also with leaves of Taro (*Colocasia esculenta*) [Araceae], although adults recorded from several other unrelated plant species (Mound *et al.*, 2017).

Distribution data

Widely reported across southeast Asia from India to some Pacific Islands including Hawaii (Mound *et al.*, 2017).

Nomenclatural data

Biltothrips Bhatti, 1973: 438. Type species *Sericothrips minutus* Bhatti 1967, by monotypy.

Only two species are known in this genus (ThripsWiki, 2018), and one of these is recorded from China:

minutus (Bhatti, 1967: 10). (*Sericothrips*)

References

- Li YY, Li ZY & Zhang HR (2017) One genus and two species of Thripinae newly recorded from China (Thysanoptera: Thripidae). *Annals of Biological Sciences* **5** (2): 54–57.
- Mound LA, Matsunaga J, Bushe B, Hoddle MS & Wells A (2017) Adventive Thysanoptera Species on the Hawaiian Islands: New Records and Putative Host Associations. *Proceedings of the Hawaiian Entomological Society* **49**: 17-28.
- Ng FY & Mound LA (2016) Two new species of *Scirtothrips* genus-group (Thripidae) of Northern Peninsular Malaysia. *Zootaxa* **4088** (1): 141–145.
- ThripsWiki (2018). *ThripsWiki - providing information on the World's thrips*. <http://thrips.info/wiki/Main_Page>