

***Frankliniella schultzei* (Trybom)**
(Common blossom thrips)

Diagnosis: Body yellow with or without brown shading on abdominal tergites. Antennae 8 segmented. Head with ocellar setae 3 pairs, pair III arising closely between anterior margins of posterior ocelli and almost as long as side of ocellar triangle; postocular setae pair IV as long as distance between posterior ocelli. Pronotum having 5 pairs of major setae; anteromarginal setae shorter than anteroangulars, a pair of minor setae present medially between



posteromarginal submedian setae. Metanotum with median setae at anterior margin without campaniform sensilla. Forewing first and second veins with complete rows of setae. Abdominal tergite VIII without posteromarginal comb. Abdominal sternites III–VII without discal setae.

***Retithrips syriacus* (Mayet)**
(Jatropha thrips)

Diagnosis: Body blackish brown with polygonal reticulations; fore wing grey. Antennae 8 segmented. Fore wing with longitudinal veins free from ambient vein, running parallelly for the length of the wing; apical half with 3 calluses between the costal and anterior veins; anterior margin without fringe cilia; wing apex strongly rounded. Abdominal tergites reticulate fully; I with constricted posterior submedian areas, II–X with strongly reticulate median depressed area with wrinkles, III–VII each with a sub median pair of toothed comb on hind margin, VIII with complete comb of long microtrichia.



***Rhipiphorothrips cruentatus* Hood**
(Grapevine thrips)

Diagnosis: Body dark brown; forewing with yellowish brown base, clavus brown; legs yellow. Head strongly rugose, minute setae, posterior dorsum appear like a wide collar area; antennae 8 segmented. Pronotum rugose, major setae absent; mesonotum completely divided medially; metanotal triangle extends to half of metascutellum. Forewing anterior margin without setae and fringe cilia, veins weak, veinal setae minute. Abdominal tergite I



reticulated, II–VII sculptured laterally, smooth median area, comb of trichoid teeth on median of antecostal ridge, VII–VIII with a pair of stout postero median setae, postero median of IX–X with a pair of expanded setae.

Acknowledgement

Financial support of SERB, Department of Science & Technology, New Delhi through Core Research Grant Project entitled “Taxonomy and diversity of terebrantian thrips (Thysanoptera: Terebrantia) from south India with special reference to Western Ghats” (CRG/2021/006228) is acknowledged.

Published by

The Director
National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources,
Post Box No. 2491, H.A. Farm Post, Bellary Road,
Bangalore 560 024
Tel: 080-23511982/998/983
Fax: 080-23411961
Website: www.nbair.res.in
Email: director.nbair@icar.gov.in

A PICTORIAL GUIDE FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF THRIPS INFESTING IMPORTANT CROPS

Thrips of the suborder Terebrantia are minute insects and are capable of multiplying at a faster rate both sexually and parthenogenetically. Thrips are well distributed worldwide in temperate and tropical zones, but they are more diverse in the warm tropical areas than in the colder regions. They are rarely noticeable due to their small size. The adults have four slender wings fringed with long marginal cilia and asymmetrical mouth parts. The life cycle is in between holometabolous and hemimetabolous insects; the feeding immature ones are larvae, and all species have more than one pupal stadium. Terebrantian thrips are pests of agricultural crops and ornamentals due to the damage caused by feeding and as vectors of Tospoviruses, which decrease the yield and market value. They are successful pests due to their life history features, concealed lifestyle and polyphagous nature.



RACHANA, R.R.
SUNIL JOSHI
AMARENDRA, B.
CHINNU, V.S.



**NATIONAL BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL
INSECT RESOURCES**

Post Box No. 2491, H.A. Farm Post, Bellary Road
Bangalore 560 024

ICAR-NBAIR Publication: 08/2022

Diagnostic characters for identification of thrips species

Sciothrips cardamomi (Ramakrishna) (Cardamom thrips)

Diagnosis: Body brown. Antennae 8 segmented. Pronotum with 2 posteromarginal setae pairs. Metanotum with median faint sculpture but reticulate basally; median setae pair far behind anterior margin; without campaniform sensilla. Fore wing first vein with broadly interrupted setae beyond basal third; second vein with 5 setae, placed apart.



Abdominal tergites I–VII with lateral triangular pointed teeth along posterior margin; II with 3 lateral marginal setae; VIII with a complete posteromarginal comb. Intermediate abdominal sternites with lateral dentate microtrichia along posterior margin.

Scirtothrips dorsalis Hood (Chilli thrips)

Diagnosis: Body yellow, median brown marking on abdominal tergites III–VII, forewing shaded. Antennae 8 segmented. Head with ocellar setae pair III between posterior ocelli; 2 pairs of post-ocellar setae. Pronotum with posteromarginal setae S2 longer than S1. Metanotal sculpture generally transversely arcuate anteriorly, with irregular longitudinal reticulations or striations posteriorly; median pair of setae behind anterior margin. Fore wing second vein with 2 setae. Abdominal tergal microtrichial fields with 3 discal setae; VIII with posteromarginal comb complete; IX with discal microtrichia posteromedially. Abdominal sternites with microtrichia extending across median area on posterior half.



Scirtothrips bispinosus (Bagnall) (Tea thrips) *Scirtothrips bispinosus* (Bagnall)

Diagnosis: Body brown; forewing uniformly shaded. Head with ocellar setae pair III arise between posterior ocelli. Pronotum with transverse striations, posteromarginal setae S2 longer than S1. Metanotal sculpture reticulate; median pair of setae behind anterior margin. Forewing first vein with 7 setae; second vein with 1 seta. Hind tibia with a long, strong spine much anterior to posterior margin. Abdominal tergites II–VIII with dark antecostal ridge; tergal microtrichial fields with 3 discal



setae in transverse line; VIII with complete posteromarginal comb; X with 2 pairs of stout setae. Abdominal sternites with microtrichial fields laterally; II–VII bears 3 pairs of posteromarginal setae.

Stenchaetothrips biformis (Bagnall) (Rice thrips)

Diagnosis: Body brown; fore wing pale brown. Antennae 7 segmented. Head with 2 ocellar setae pairs, pair III shorter than II, arising a little anterior to hind ocelli. Pronotum having 2 pairs of long posteroangular setae; 2–3 pairs of posteromarginal setae. Metanotum with longitudinal striations, converging posteromedially; campaniform sensilla not present, median setae arise behind anterior margin. Forewing first vein with 2–4 distal setae; second vein with about 12 setae, uniformly spaced. Abdominal tergites with median setae small, wide apart; VIII with complete posteromarginal comb with irregular microtrichia. Abdominal sternites with irregular, small dentate microtrichia on posterior margins.



Thrips tabaci Lindeman (Onion thrips)

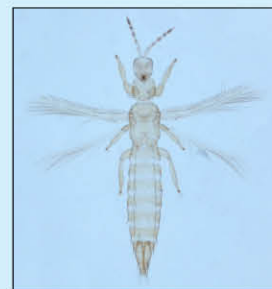
Diagnosis: Body yellow or brown. Antennae 7 segmented. Head with small ocellar setae III, arise on anterior margins or just within ocellar triangle; post ocular setae I–III equal to ocellar setae III in length. Pronotum with 3 or 4 pairs of posteromarginal setae. Metanotum irregularly reticulate medially with lines converging to midpoint near posterior margin; median setae short, arise behind anterior margin; campaniform sensilla absent. Forewing first vein usually with 4 (varying from 2–6) distal setae. Abdominal tergite



II with 3 lateral marginal setae; VIII with complete posteromarginal comb of long slender microtrichia; pleurotergites without discal setae, sculpture bearing rows of fine microtrichia. Abdominal sternites without discal setae.

Thrips palmi Karny (Melon thrips)

Diagnosis: Body yellow; forewing pale. Head with small ocellar setae pair III, arising outside ocellar triangle; postocular setae pair I slightly longer than ocellar setae III. Antennae 7 segmented. Pronotum with 2 pairs of very long posteroangular setae, 3 pairs of posteromarginal setae. Metanotum with irregular longitudinal lines converging to posterior margin, with anteriorly curving transverse lines; median setae arising well behind anterior margin, campaniform sensilla present. Forewing first vein with 3 distal setae. Abdominal tergite II with 4



marginal setae laterally; VIII with complete comb; discal setae on pleurotergites absent. Abdominal sternites without discal setae. It is almost similar in structure to *Thrips flavus*, the latter has ocellar setae pair III closely placed together behind the first ocellus within the ocellar triangle.