

Apterygothrips kohai

Distinguishing features

Both sexes micropterous (female rarely fully winged). Pale brown, antennal segments III–VI grading from yellow to yellowish brown; tarsi and apices of tibiae yellow; major setae pale. Head longer than wide, ocelli small, sometimes absent; maxillary stylelets retracted almost to postocular setae, one third of head width apart with distinct maxillary bridge; postocular setae bluntly pointed; eyes smaller ventrally than dorsally. Antennae 8-segmented, VIII narrower at base than VII at apex; III with 1 sense cone, IV with 2 sense cones. Pronotum with 5 pairs of small almost pointed setae; basantra present; mesopresternum transverse, slender, sometimes eroded medially; length of fore wing lobe no more than one-fifth of thorax width. Fore tarsus with small tooth. Pelta 'D'-shaped, with sculpture faint or absent; tergites III–VII each with 2 pairs of wing-retaining setae, these usually very small, but sometimes posterior pair sigmoid; tergite VIII postero-angular and posteromarginal setae acute; tergite IX posteromarginal setae usually acute but sometimes blunt, about half as long as tube; tube short, about half as long as head. Male similar to but smaller than female, variable in size; foretarsal tooth large.

Related species

Four species from New Zealand are placed in the genus *Apterygothrips*, but the 40 species currently listed in this genus possibly do not represent a single phylogenetic lineage. These species are similar to species of *Haplothrips*, but have only two or three sense cones on the fourth antennal segment, instead of four, the tergal wing-retaining setae are weak or absent, and the forewing, if present, lacks duplicated cilia and is scarcely constricted medially. The third antennal segment bears two sense cones in *A. viretrum* but in the other three species from New Zealand this segment bears only one sense cone. *A. kohai* is closely similar to *australis*, apart from the more pointed major setae.

Biological data

Apparently associated mainly with high-country tussock grassland.

Distribution data

Known only from New Zealand (MB, MK, CO).

Family name

PHLAEOTHRIPIDAE, PHLAEOTHRIPINAE

Species name

Apterygothrips kohai Mound & Walker

Original name and synonyms

Apterygothrips kohai Mound & Walker, 1986: 42

References

Mound LA & Walker AK (1986) Tubulifera (Insecta: Thysanoptera). *Fauna of New Zealand* 10: 1–140.



Antenna

