

Mini data sheet on *Microcephalothrips abdominalis*

Added in 1998 - Deleted in 2001

**Reasons for deletion**

A PRA (00-8414) concluded that the pest *Microcephalothrips abdominalis* did not have the characteristics of a quarantine pest. In 2001, it was therefore removed from the EPPO Alert List.

*Microcephalothrips abdominalis* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) - Composite thrips

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| Why             | <i>M. abdominalis</i> came to our attention because it is considered as a pest of ornamentals in south-eastern USA.  |
| Where           | Tropics, and subtropics. Australia, India, Japan, Korea Republic, Peru, Taiwan, Thailand, USA.   |
| On which plants | Many ornamental species of family Asteraceae (e.g. <i>Bidens formosa</i> (cosmos), chrysanthemum, <i>Helianthus</i> , <i>Pyrethrum</i> , <i>Tagetes</i> , <i>Zinnia</i> ). In Asia, its presence is reported on Orchidaceae, and also on tea and rice crops.                                   |
| Damage          | Heavy infestations cause damage to the corolla, stamens, and developing seeds of plants in the Asteraceae. Petals lose pigmentation, senesce early and drop prematurely.   |
| Pathway         | Asteraceae and Orchidaceae plants for planting and cut flowers from infested countries.  |
| Possible risks  | Attacks many ornamental Asteraceous plants. Tropical species which could be a risk for ornamentals grown under glass. Control may be difficult.  |
| Source(s)       | Insect and related pests of flowers and foliage plants. Some important, common and potential pests in the southeastern United States. edited by Baker, J.R. (1994) North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service, US, 106 pp.<br>Review of Agricultural Entomology, 89(1), p 49 (abstract 344). |

EPPO RS 98/180, 2001/081.

Panel review date 2001-01

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