



Back to [Pest Identification and Diagnosis](#)



	Introduction to Thrips	Ke to Thrips	Cuban Laurel Thrips	
Flower Thrips	Western Flower Thrips	Tobacco Thrips	Greenhouse Thrips	Banded Greenhouse Thrips
Melon Thrips	Gladiolus Thrips	Onion Thrips	Composite Thrips	Echinothrips americanus

GLADIOLUS THRIPS

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Thrips simple* (Morison)

CLASS: Insecta

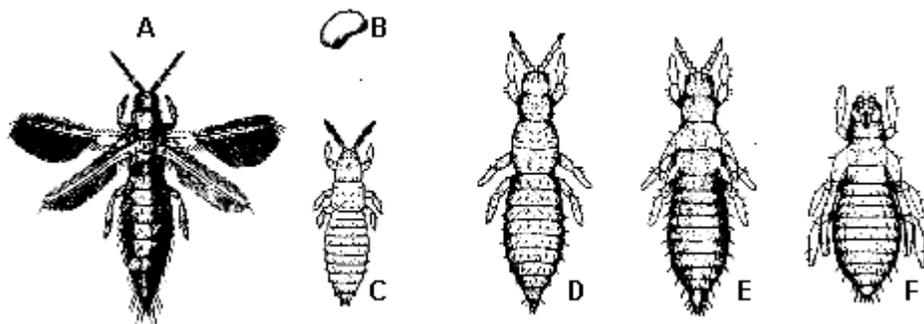
ORDER: Thsanoptera

FAMILY: Thripidae



Adult Female Gladiolus Thrips

From: [Universit of Florida](#)



A. Adult B. Egg C-D. Larvae E. Prepupa F. Pupa

Life Ccle

From: [NC E"tension](#)

DESCRIPTION

Adults: Gladiolus thrips emerge milk-white, but soon turn dark brown, e"cept for the apical portions of the legs which are lighter. The wings, brown apicall and lighter basall, appear to be darker with a gre band when folded over the back. This thrips is about 1.5 to 1.65 mm long. Males are smaller slightl smaller and lighter in color than the females.

Eggs: The eggs are opaque, white, kidne-shaped, and about 0.34 mm long and 0.2 mm in diameter.

Larvae: The larvae of the gladiolus thrips are light or pale ellow with red ees and are about 1.0 mm long when full developed.

Pupae and Prepupae: The pupae move onl when disturbed and develop through 2 instars. The first instar (prepupa) has short wing pads and the antennae project forward. The second instar (pupa) has long wing pads and the antennae are folded back onto the head. Both stages are dark orange with red ees and about 1.2 mm in

length.

BIOLOGY

Distribution: Gladiolus thrips is now found wherever gladioli are grown. However, it cannot overwinter out-of-doors in northern Europe and northern North America.

Host Plants: The gladiolus thrips most seriousl damages gladioli, but is also a pest of iris, carnation, lil, narcissus, freesia, amarllis, tigerflower, poker plant, tomato, begonia, primula, snapdragon, chrsanthemum, and geranium.

Damage: Plants severel infested with gladiolus thrips have a spotted, bleached appearance (see Color Plate). Both leaves and petals are fed upon and appear withered. If flower buds are seriousl damaged, the flowers fail to open. The entire plant ma become stunted.

Life Ccle: Gladiolus thrips are believed to be an introduced pest from Africa, where gladioli are native. The thrips are brought into previousl uninfested fields or greenhouses on infested corms. These rather sluggish thrips can overwinter at an stage on stored corms or on plants growing in greenhouses. Although the gladiolus thrips can maintain a population outside during the summer, the cannot overwinter outside in areas where the temperature consistenl falls below 10◆ C.

These thrips have si“ stages in their life ccle: the egg, two larval instars, two pupal instars and the adult stage. Females deposit 100 to 200 eggs. Man times females greatl out-number the males in a population and parthenogenesis occurs. Parthenogenetic females produce eggs that develop into males. Temperature greatl determines the duration of each stage. During the warm growing season the development of the gladiolus thrips can occur in about 2 weeks. With such rapid development, the thrips can have nine or more generations outside during the growing season. The eggs are deposited in the leaves of gladioli or in the corms in storage. Larvae and pupae can be found in the buds or leaf sheaths, although the larvae often drop to the ground to transform into the quiescent pupae. Adult gladiolus thrips live 35 to 40 das.

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Back to [Pest Identification and Diagnosis](#)



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Last modified on March 06, 2013



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