

Thrips Parvispinus

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About Thrips Parvispinus:

- It is an **invasive pest species**.
- It is a **polyphagous pest**, which can also grow and multiply on alternate hosts like drumstick, pigeon pea, chickpea, papaya, mango and **weed species** like Parthenium, Cleome viscosa, Prosopis sp., Lantana camera, Calotropis sp., Tecoma sp. and wild solanum plants.
- It has been reported from **Thailand, Australia and Europe**.
- The last two decades witnessed a drastic extension in the geographic distribution and it is now known to occur in France, Greece, Hawaii, Mauritius, Reunion, Spain, Tanzania and the Netherlands, besides India
- In India, this species was first reported on **Papaya from Bengaluru in 2015**.
- Thrips parvispinus adults mainly colonize on flowers and underside of leaves whereas larvae suck sap from undersurface of the leaves.
- Infestation causes **heavy flower drop** and thereby reduces fruit production.
- Its **infestation increased during heavy rainfall** of North East monsoon in contrast to other thrips species.

What are Thrips?

- Thrips are an important **group of sucking pests** which cause significant economic losses both as pests and vectors of serious plant viruses in several horticultural crops.
 - There are reports on the outbreak of sucking pests like thrips in different regions due to changes in **crop production patterns, pesticide usage and climate change**.
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Q1:What is an Invasive Species?

An invasive species is an organism that is not indigenous, or native, to a particular area. Invasive species can cause great economic and environmental harm to the new area.

Source: Invasive thrips caused 80% damage to chilli crops, Rajya Sabha told

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/thrips-parvispinus/>

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