

Coriander Aphid, *Hyadaphis coriandri*(Das) (Insecta: Hemiptera: Aphididae)¹

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The Featured Creatures collection provides in-depth profiles of insects, nematodes, arachnids and other organisms relevant to Florida. These profiles are intended for the use of interested laypersons with some knowledge of biology as well as academic audiences.

Introduction

The coriander aphid, *Hyadaphis coriandri* (Das), was found for the first time in North America on fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare* Mill.) at Orange County residences in Apopka and Orlando. In December 1998, an infestation also was found on coriander (*Coriandrum sativum* Linnaeus) and dill (*Anethum graveolens* Linnaeus) at a residence in Tampa, Hillsborough County.

There are about thirteen described species of *Hyadaphis* (Remaudière and Remaudière 1997), most of which are obscure Central Asian or European species (Ivanovskaya 1977; Kadyrbekov 1990; Miyazaki 1971; Raychaudhuri et al. 1980; Shaposhnikov 1964). There are several species in the genus known to be pests, including the coriander aphid, *Hyadaphis foeniculi* (Passerini), *Hyadaphis passerinii* (del Guercio) and *Hyadaphis tataricae* (Aizenberg).

Only three *Hyadaphis* species occur in the Western Hemisphere. *Hyadaphis foeniculi*, the honeysuckle aphid, has been in North America for a long time. Its winter host is honeysuckle, and summer hosts are various Umbelliferae

including some cultivated crops. There are no Division of Plant Industry specimens or records of this species in Florida.

Hyadaphis tataricae, the honeysuckle witches' broom aphid, was introduced into the Western Hemisphere in the mid 1970s and had colonized northern United States and southern Canada within about ten years. It apparently is restricted to northern states (Voegtlin 1988). The honeysuckle witches' broom aphid completes its entire life cycle on honeysuckle, to which it causes major damage in North America. The coriander aphid has been found only in Florida and California.

Distribution

Coriander aphids probably are native to Central Asia, where they have been found on their primary host plants. Current worldwide distribution includes Central Asia, the Mediterranean area, the Indian Subcontinent, Africa, and California and Florida in the United States.

Description

Coriander aphids are yellow-green in color, dusted with greyish wax. They have short, dusky, slightly swollen, siphunculi (or cornicles) that are about twice as long as wide. They form dense and often damaging colonies on leaves, heads, and stems of their host plants. In Florida, several other species colonize the common hosts of the

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coriander aphid. These include various *Aphis* spp., the **green peach aphid** (*Myzus persicae* (Sulzer)), and the rice root aphid (*Rhopalosiphum rufiabdominalis* (Sasaki)). Both green peach aphids and the *Aphis* spp. have siphunculi that are much longer than twice their diameter. Rice root aphids live underground.



Figure 1. Colony of coriander aphids, *Hyadaphis coriandri* (Das), on fennel.

Credits: Jeffrey Lotz, Division of Plant Industry

Life History

In its native land of Central Asia, the life cycle of the coriander aphid is similar to that of other host-alternating aphids. Overwintering eggs occur on *Lonicera nummulariifolia* Jaub. & Spach. and other *Lonicera* spp. (Remaudière and Halbert 2000). A fundatrix (or stem mother) hatches from the egg in the spring. Her offspring are parthenogenetic, winged-female spring migrants. They colonize summer host plants in the family Umbelliferae. During the summer, there are many generations of aphids. All individuals are parthenogenetic females, but they can be either winged or wingless, depending on host plant quality and crowding in the colony. If host plant quality declines, or the colony becomes crowded, winged individuals form that can establish colonies on new plants.

In the autumn, parthenogenetic female fall migrants occur in response to cooler temperatures and/or short days. These return to the winter hosts, where they give birth to egg-laying females. Similarly, the summer colonies produce winged males in the fall. The males also return to the winter host plants, where they mate with the egg-laying females to produce the overwintering eggs.

In Florida, the overwintering part of the life cycle probably will not occur. More likely, colonies of summer forms, both winged and wingless, will persist on Umbelliferae throughout the year.

Hosts

Species of *Hyadaphis* are associated with Caprifoliaceae (winter hosts) and/or Umbelliferae (summer hosts). The coriander aphid has been found in Florida only on its summer host plants. Florida hosts to date include coriander, dill, fennel and parsley (*Petroselinum crispum* (P. Mill.) Nyman ex A.W. Hill). Other reported hosts include celery (*Apium graveolens* Linnaeus var. *dulce* (Miller) DC.) and carrots (*Daucus carota* Linnaeus var. *sativus* Hoffm.). There are records of sporadic colonies on miscellaneous hosts outside the Umbelliferae, including horsemint (*Mentha longifolia* (Linnaeus) Huds.), spiny pigweed (*Amaranthus spinosus* Linnaeus), soybean (*Glycine max* (Linnaeus) Merr.), and blond psyllium (*Plantago ovata* Forssk.) (Blackman and Eastop 1984; Kumar and Sagar 1994). The coriander aphid is considered a key pest of coriander in India in the spring (Kumar and Sagar 1994).

Survey and Detection

The best way to find coriander aphids is to inspect their common host plants, including coriander, dill, fennel, parsley, and other Umbelliferae. There is a danger that coriander aphids could be distributed widely if they became established in nurseries that produce small pots of herbs for supermarkets, so these types of businesses would be a priority for inspection.



Figure 2. Damage to fennel by coriander aphids, *Hyadaphis coriandri* (Das).

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Management

Consult with local UF/IFAS Extension personnel for control of coriander aphids. Available materials may be limited because the host plants of coriander aphids are minor crops. For advice on chemical, cultural and biological controls see: *Insect Management Guide for Celery and Parsley* (<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/IG149>).

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