

Pest Profile



Photo credit: Zsafia Szendrei, Michigan State University

Common Name: European Asparagus aphid

Scientific Name: *Brachycorynella asparagi*

Order and Family: Hemiptera, Aphididae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		
Larva/Nymph		
Adult	1-1.5mm	Blue-green to gray green in color. Often covered in a powdery wax. Cornicles very reduced.
Pupa (if applicable)		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Piercing-sucking mouthparts. Feeds on plant juices.

Host plant/s: Asparagus plants with preference for feeding on the fern.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Feeding damage occurs from the injection of toxin that distorts the plant's growth. Heavy feeding causes prolific distortion on plants as well as excessive honeydew. The perennial nature of asparagus results in higher yield loss in subsequent years if left untreated.

References:

Natwick, E. T. (2012). *European Asparagus aphid*. UC Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program. University of California.

Szendrei, Z. & Schreiber, A. (2011). *Check your asparagus fields for aphids*. MSU Extension. Michigan State University. Washington Asparagus Commission.