

Pest Profile



Photo credit: Adam Sisson, Iowa State University, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Bird Cherry-Oat aphid

Scientific Name: *Rhopalosiphum padi*

Order and Family: Hemiptera, Aphididae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		
Larva/Nymph		Pale yellow green
Adult	1.58 mm	Dark olive green with reddish-brown patch on abdomen.
Pupa (if applicable)		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Piercing/sucking mouthparts for feeding on plant juices.

Host plant/s: Alternating host from cherry to small grains such as wheat, oats, barley, rye, and triticale.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Bird cherry-oat aphids are host-alternating aphids utilizing cherry as an egg laying substrate in the winter. These aphids are active early in spring and can build up large numbers quickly on the young grain plants. Primary damage is from the transmission of Barley Yellow Dwarf virus. Depending on the grain, virus causes discoloration and stunted growth.

References:

Godfrey, L.D., & Barlow, V. M. (2009). Small Grains- Bird cherry-oat aphids. *UC IPM Pest Management Guidelines*. University of California.

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