

Pest Profile



Photo credit: Louis Tedders, USDA Agricultural Research Service, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Black Pecan Aphid

Scientific Name: *Melanocallis caryaefoliae*

Order and Family: Hemiptera, Aphididae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		
Larva/Nymph		Yellowish-green to olive green in color
Adult		Dark green to black in color
Pupa (if applicable)		

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

Host plant/s: Primary host is pecan trees

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Adults and nymphs feed on the leaves of pecan trees. It is believed that their saliva degrades chlorophyll in the leaves, resulting in leaf chlorosis. Heavy feeding can cause severe leaf loss which then affects nut yield and quality and return bloom. Excessive feeding causes buildup of honeydew and the subsequent development of sooty mold.

References:

Cottrell T. E., Wood, B. W., & Ni, X. (2009) Chlorotic Feeding Injury by the Black Pecan Aphid (Hemiptera: Aphididae) to Pecan Foliage Promotes Aphid Settling and Nymphal Development. *Environmental Entomology*, 38. 2, 411–416. <https://doi.org/10.1603/022.038.0214>

Hall, M. J. (N.D.) *Black Pecan Aphid. Species description*. Louisiana State University Agricultural Center.