

Pest Profile



Photo credit: Jim Baker, North Carolina State University, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Foxglove Aphid

Scientific Name: *Aulacorthum solani*

Order and Family: Hemiptera

Size and Appearance:

| | Length (mm) | Appearance |
|-----------------------------|-------------|--|
| Egg | | Pale green turning black with age. |
| Larva/Nymph | | Nymph coloring similar to adults. |
| Adult | 1.8-3.0mm | A shiny pale white or yellowish green color with dark green, orange, or rust colored spots at the base of the cornicles. |
| Pupa (if applicable) | | |

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

Host plant/s: The Foxglove aphid has a very large host range, feeding on a variety of plants. Wild Foxglove, *Digitalis spp.*, is a popular overwintering host.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): The Foxglove aphid has a wide host range which enables it to be a pest of many crops, especially in greenhouses. Many aphid species inject a toxic saliva when they feed and the Foxglove aphids' saliva is highly toxic to many plants, causing deformation and discoloration. In addition to its toxic saliva, the Foxglove aphid can transmit about 40 plant viruses. However, viral transmission is weak with this species. The Foxglove aphid is a notable pest on lettuces, peppers, and potatoes.

References:

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