

Pest Profile



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Common Name: Pear Psylla

Scientific Name: *Cacopsylla pyricola*

Order and Family: Hemiptera, Psyllidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Shaped like flat grains of rice- Creamy white when laid but turns yellow to orange in color as it develops
Larva/Nymph	~1.6mm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Pale yellow to greenish brown in color- Have red eyes and black antennae- Develop dark markings and wing pads as they mature- Often covered with droplets of honeydew
Adult	2-3 mm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tan to light brown with clear wings.- Winterform wings have dark, smoky area along the inner margin- Summerform wings are almost clear except for veins- Wings are held tent-like over their bodies while at rest
Pupa (if applicable)		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Both nymphs and adults have sucking mouthparts

Host plant/s: Pear and Quince

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Both nymphs and adults feed on different parts of the pear tree. Their feeding produces honeydew, which drops onto fruit, causing a black sooty mold to grow and the fruit skin to russet. During feeding, pear psylla inject a toxin into the tree, causing blackened spots to appear on the leaf blades and leaves to yellow and sometimes fall off. The toxin can also reduce the growth and productivity of the tree for one or more seasons.

Pear psyllas are also vectors of a pathogen that causes pear decline. Pear decline can cause stunting, defoliation, and even kill the tree depending on the variety of tree, rootstock, number of pear psylla, and the quality of the growing area.

References:

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