

Pest Profile



Photo credit: [Florida Division of Plant Industry](#), Florida Department of Agriculture and Customer Services, Bugwood.org;

Common Name: Brown citrus aphid

Synonyms: Oriental citrus aphid, Tropical citrus aphid

Scientific Name: *Toxoptera citricida*

Order and Family: Hemiptera: Aphididae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		Reproduces asexually in most of the world.
Larva/Nymph		Dark, reddish-brown. Smaller, but closely resemble adults.
Adult	1.5 - 2.8 mm	Pear shaped with a pair of cornicles (triangular shaped tubes) at the rear of the abdomen. Wingless forms are very shiny black. Larger than other aphid species that feed on citrus. Winged forms may be black or brown and have distinct segmented black antennae.
Pupa (if applicable)		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Piercing-sucking

Host plant/s: Citrus and members of the Rutaceae. Some reports indicate that *T. citricida* has been collected on other (non-citrus) plants, but they have not been verified.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Aphids extract plant sap by penetrating their mouthparts into the plant's phloem. The aphids excrete honeydew which may support the growth of sooty mold.

Damage is often concentrated at the growing plant tips. Leaf damage may appear as curling or distortion which stunts plant growth or causes deformation. *T. citricida* vectors the *Citrus tristeza virus* (CTV) which is a serious disease for the citrus industry.

References:

Halbert, S.E. and L.G. Brown. (2013). Brown citrus aphid. University of Florida Department of Entomology and Nematology. Retrieved 29 February 2016, from <http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/citrus/bc_aphid.htm>.

Martin, K.W., J. A. Weeks, A.C. Hodges, and N.C. Leppla. (2012). Brown citrus aphid. Retrieved 29 February 2016, from <<http://idtools.org/id/citrus/pests/factsheet.php?name=Brown%20citrus%20aphid>>.