

Disease Profile

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| Common name | Lilly pilly psyllid/ pimple psyllid | Family | Psyllidae |
| Genus/species | <i>Trioza eugeniae</i> | Order | Hemiptera |
| Pest/disease type | Sap sucking insects | | |
| Host | The lilly pilly group particularly, <i>Syzygium sp</i> | | |
| Symptoms | Raised pimple like formations on leaflets, these galls are formed once nymphs find a suitable site on the under side of leaflet to feed mostly on newly formed leaflets. Damage mostly occurs in spring but may be found all year round. Leaflets may also appear disfigured. Tip dieback may occur | | |
| Identifying features/ Life cycle- | <p>Eggs: are laid on the plant and is usually the overwintering stage in cooler areas, in warmer areas the insect may be active all year round. Parts of Sydney particularly the west may have all year round populations</p> <p>Nymphs: there are 5 nymphal stages, nymphs are mobile before finding a suitable feeding place on the under side of the leaf. New foliage is most often attacked but severe infestations may cause further damage.</p> <p>Adult: is approx 2mm long and winged</p> | | |
| Control options | | | |
| Environmental controls | Frosts may kill off adult populations. Keep plants well irrigated and incorporate leaf mulch to improve plant response. Use resistant species such as <i>Syzygium leuhmannii</i> (and the dwarf variety <i>Syzygium</i> 'Royal Flame') and the small-leafed lilly pilly <i>Acmena smithii var minor</i> | | |
| Biological controls | Not recorded | | |
| Chemical control | A systemic insecticide such as Imidacloprid is best as it can be difficult to spray these insects as they are protected by the gall they create. A soil drench of Imidacloprid in June (1-2 month uptake) should provide protection from populations emerging in spring and will last for approx. 18 months. If a population already exists than tip pruning to remove infected foliage followed by a spray of Imidacloprid twice at 7 day intervals may be best. Newly emerging foliage can also be sprayed to offer protection if a soil application has not occurred. Acetamiprid (maxguard) may also be used | | |



<http://www.yates.com.au/problem-solver/problems/psyllids/>



<http://www.treeworld.info/f2/monterey-brush-cherry-20443.html>



http://www.scottsasiapacific.com/nursery/plant_protection/pest_disease_and_weed_id/pests.html

References:

Kirkland, 2001

http://gardenclinic.com.au/bug_watch/lillypilly_and_pimple_psyllids/

All text by Shaun Talent

Plantfile pro version 9

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