

Pest Alert

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Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Division of Plant Industry

Euphyllura olivina (Costa), (Hemiptera: Psyllidae), a psyllid that infests commercial olive plants

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INTRODUCTION: Several species in the psyllid genus *Euphyllura* infest commercial olives. The insects feed on new growth and fruit stems, extracting the nutrients that would have been used by the plant to produce olives. These insects are found in Europe and the Middle East, and one of them, *Euphyllura olivina* (Costa), has become established in California. Species in the genus look very similar and are distinguished from one another by subtle patterns on the wings and the shape of the male genitalia. So far, none of the species occur in Florida. As Florida continues to develop an olive industry, there is increased demand for olive nursery stock. Importations of nursery stock from areas with known infestations could accidentally introduce *Euphyllura* populations into Florida. A Featured Creature publication by Shari Linn and Jennifer Gillette-Kauffman, University of Florida, has biological information and images of the immature and adult insects and the wax they produce: http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/FRUIT/TROPICAL/olive_psyllid.htm

IDENTIFICATION: The flocculent white wax produced by the psyllid nymphs is relatively easy to see, but the eggs are not. Eggs are placed in the new sprouts on the plant. Nursery stock could arrive in Florida with viable eggs that would be difficult for inspectors or nursery employees to detect. Eggs of *Euphyllura phillyrae*, one of the olive psyllids that occurs in Turkey, are shown below. All photographs are courtesy of Hanife Genc, Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University.

If you suspect you have seen this pest, please contact:

Division of Plant Industry Helpline
1-888-397-1517 | (352) 395-4600 (Outside North America)
DPIHelpline@FreshFromFlorida.com



Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services



Fig. 1. Adult olive psyllid, *Euphyllura olivina* (Costa).
 Photo credit: Marshall W. Johnson, University of California Riverside.



Fig. 2. *Euphyllura phillyreae* eggs on olive plant.
 Photo credit: Hanife Genc, Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University

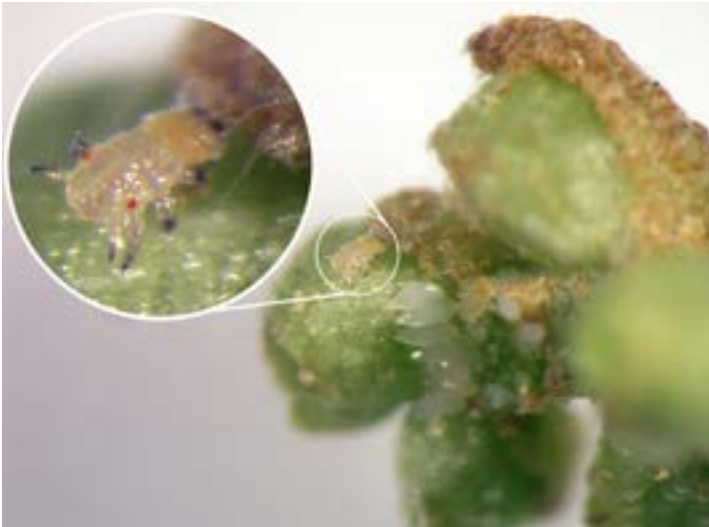


Fig. 3. Newly hatched nymph from *Euphyllura phillyreae* eggs.
 Photo credit: Hanife Genc, Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University



Fig. 4. Olive plant infested with *Euphyllura phillyreae* eggs.
 Photo credit: Hanife Genc, Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University