

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Melaleuca Psyllid (*Boreioglycaspis melaleucae*)

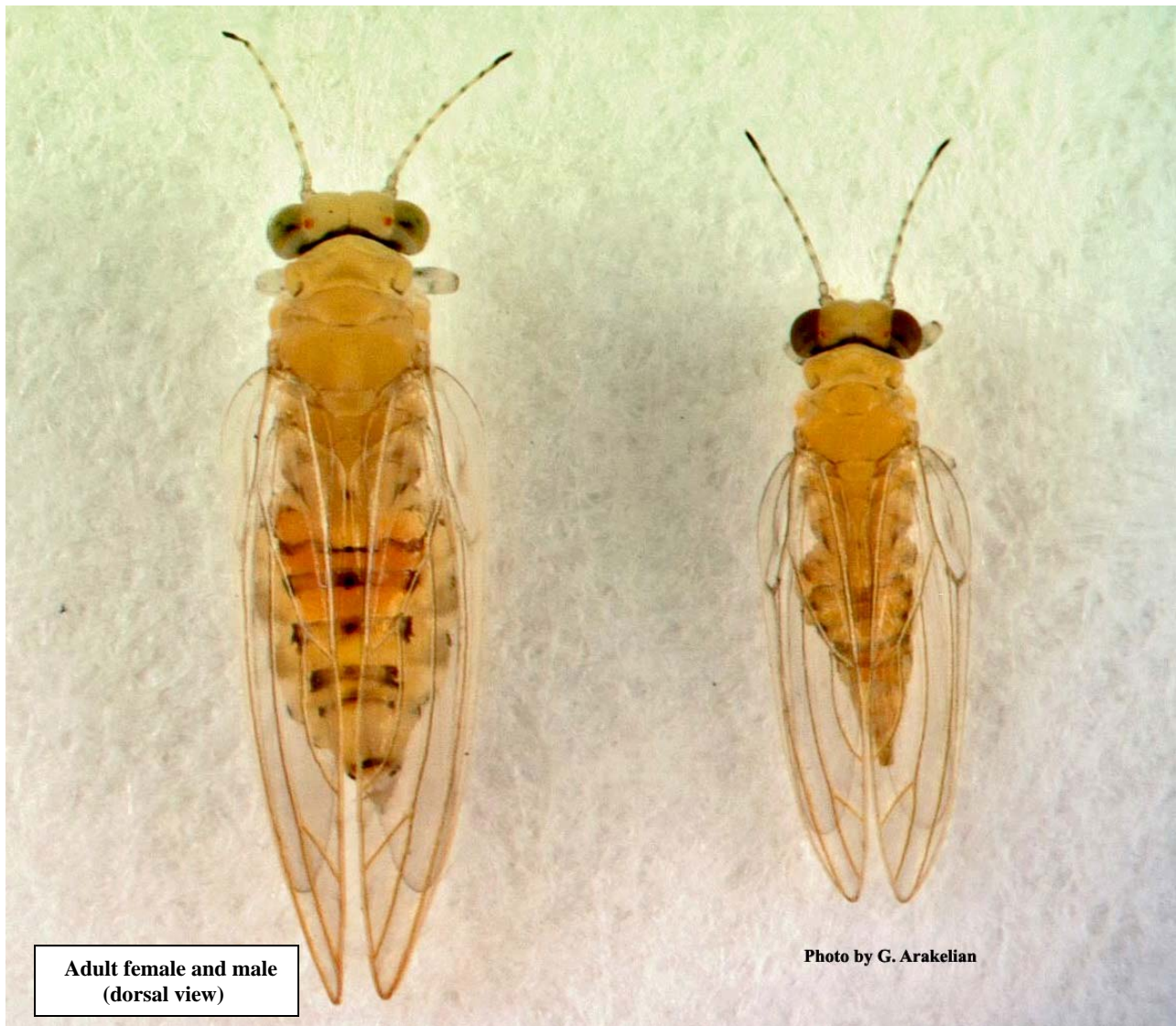
Distribution: Native to Australia. Intentionally introduced into Florida in 2002 as a biological control agent to combat *Melaleuca quinquenervia* (Cajeput or Paperbark tree) invading native ecosystems. Found in California (Los Angeles County) in 2009.

Hosts: Several species in the genus *Melaleuca*.

Damage: Adults and nymphs suck juices of host plants, leave discolored, shriveled leaves and cause defoliation. Infested trees are contaminated with masses of wax and sticky honeydew produced by nymphs. Honeydew deposits are often covered with black sooty mold.

Field ID: Adults (about 3.0 mm long) have yellowish-orange bodies (with brown and black markings) and transparent wings. Females are larger than males. Adults jump or fly readily when disturbed.

Nymphs have yellow bodies with brown markings and are covered with long, white waxy filaments. Pass through five instars.



Adult female and male
(dorsal view)

Photo by G. Arakelian



Nymphs in various stages of development

Photo by G. Arakelian



Photo by G. Arakelian



Photo by G. Arakelian

Infestation and damage on *Melaleuca quinquenervia*