



## Asian Citrus Psyllid (*Diaphorina citri*)



Adult (lateral view)



Nymph (dorsal view)

**Other common names:** Citrus psylla, Oriental citrus psyllid, Asiatic citrus psyllid.

**Distribution:** Widely distributed from Southeastern Asia to Iran. Found also in Saudi Arabia, on the islands of Reunion and Mauritius, in South and Central America, Mexico, and in the Caribbean Basin. Introduced into the U.S.: several southern states (including California) and Hawaii.

**Field ID:** Adults (about 3-4 mm) have grayish-tan bodies with brown markings and mottled brown wings. Last two segments of antennae are black. Feed with posterior parts of their bodies raised at 45° angle to the substrate. Jump or fly readily when approached. Nymphs have yellow to brown oval bodies with well-developed wing pads. Pass through 5 instars. Eggs: Yellow to orange color; almond-shaped.



Head (dorsal view)



Female genitalia



Male genitalia

**Hosts and damage:** Feeds on citrus, some closely related plants of the Rutaceae family, and fig (*Ficus carica*). Feeding may cause distortion of leaves and young shoots. Infested plant parts are often covered with wax and honeydew (upon which sooty molds grow) produced by nymphs. High populations are able to stunt the growth of young citrus trees. *D. citri* is a vector of the bacterium *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus* causing citrus greening disease or huanglongbing (“yellow dragon disease” in Chinese).



Forewing

Photo by G. Arakelian