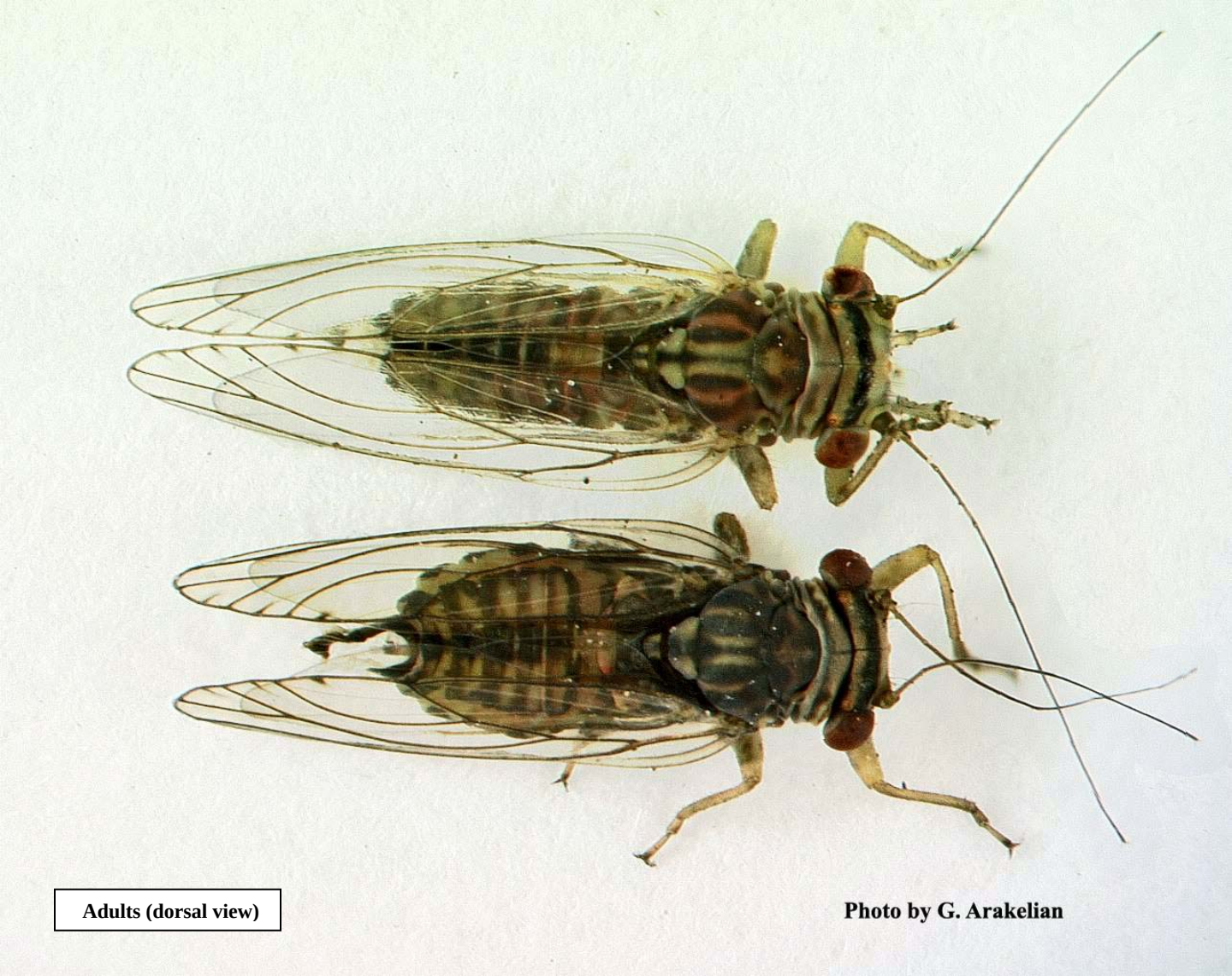
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Tipu Psyllid *(Platycorypha nigrivirga)*

Distribution: Known from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Uruguay, and Spain. Introduced into the U.S.: California.
Hosts: Tipu tree *(Tipuana tipu)*.
Damage: Adults and nymphs suck juices of host plants, leave stippled, distorted 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. Tipu psyllid populations can build up quickly and reach pest proportions.
Field ID: Adults (3.0-4.0 mm long) have yellowish-green bodies with distinct brown, black or orange markings. Females are larger than males. Adults jump or fly readily when disturbed.
Nymphs have shiny, yellowish-orange bodies with contrasting black markings. Wing pads are well developed, dark brown to black.

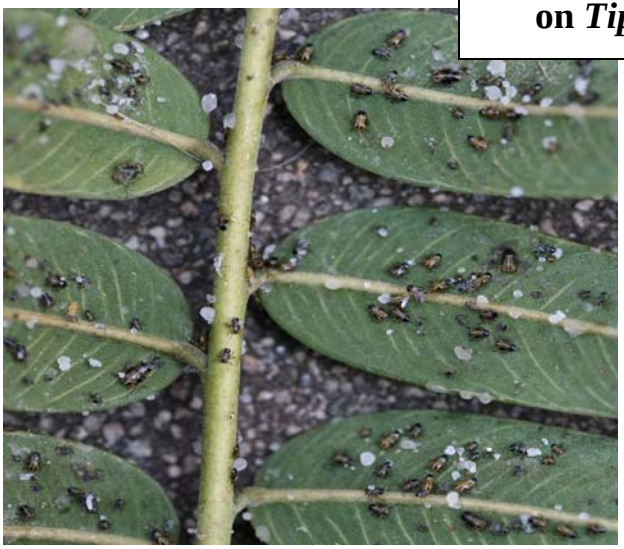


Adults (dorsal view)

Photo by G. Arakelian

Nymphs in various stages of development

Infestation and damage on *Tipuana tipu*



Prepared by Dr. Gevork Arakelian, Senior Biologist, Los Angeles County Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures
- March, 2009 -