

wing covers. This beetle was introduced into Florida from California in 1925. It is most common in Orange, Lake and Osceola counties (25).

GREEN CITRUS APHID

The species, *Aphis spiraecola* Patch., is the common one found on citrus in Florida. It was apparently first noted on citrus in Manatee County in 1922 and became a serious pest during 1924 and 1925 (21). It is probable that its native host plant is *Spiraea*. It was only on this plant that Tissot (44) reported finding viable eggs. No eggs were noted on citrus (21). The approved common name for this insect is the Spirea aphid, although in Florida it is known as the green citrus aphid. In 1953 (36) it was shown to be a vector of tristeza virus.

This aphid is readily distinguished from the melon aphid. It is pale green in color and appears to be almost the same color as the young citrus leaves upon which it is feeding. As wing pads form, the thorax darkens and becomes brown but the abdomen remains green (58).

MELON APHID

The species *Aphis gossypii* Glov. is less common than the green citrus aphid but is found in most groves and has attained a new importance with the discovery in Florida of the tristeza virus of which it is a vector. Its life cycle has been thoroughly described by Goff and Tissot (10). Apparently, in Florida, reproduction is parthenogenetic—offspring are produced without males having been present.

While this species may be somewhat green in color, it is never so pure a green as to closely resemble the green citrus aphid. It varies in color from a light yellowish green to a dark, slate-blue green, and on occasion is even darker (10).

BLACK CITRUS APHID

Toxoptera aurantii (Fonsc.) is very dark brown in color. It is of economic importance only on rare occasions and then almost exclusively on grapefruit. It is most commonly found on grapefruit in little colonies on the under side of nearly full-sized leaves. Although this aphid is of a dark color, it is not the same species as the black aphid, *Aphis citricidus* (Kirk.), which is a very efficient transmitter of tristeza in South America.

As with most aphids, it may be noted that periodically the