

entire colony seems to stand on their heads. It was first noted in 1947 by James Turnbull, an irrigation engineer at the Florida Citrus Experiment Station, that when the black citrus aphids stood on their heads they emitted a rasping, scratchy sound. The authors checked on this and found it to be true. They were never able to find an audible sound coming from other species. This phenomenon may be observed by placing the ear close to the leaf on which the aphids are found and listening carefully.

CONTROL

Aphid control is usually attempted only in young groves or in Temple orange blocks. Other mature trees are rarely affected sufficiently to justify control measures. In order to be effective, the application must be properly timed, and repeated sprays are often necessary. The fact that reinfestation may occur within a few days after the spray is a complicating situation. As the leaves mature, and the aphids grow wings and fly, an infestation may disappear with no spray being used. Therefore, it is necessary to spray shortly after aphids appear on tender growth. Once leaves have begun to harden, the usefulness of sprays is questionable. See the Spray and Dust Schedule of the Better Fruit Program for current aphid control recommendations.

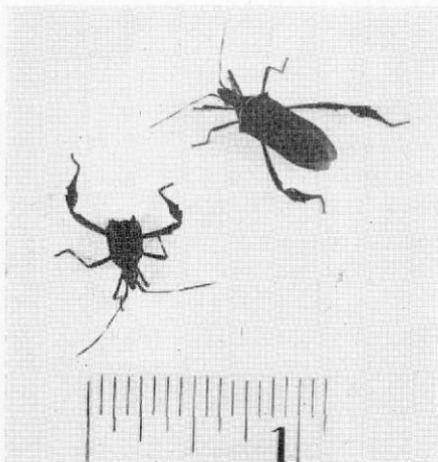


Fig. 55.—The leaf-footed or citron plant bug, *Leptoglossus gonagra*. One is a winged adult and the other a well-developed nymph. The white line across the thorax just behind the head does not show in this picture. This character differentiates this species from *L. phyllopus*.

PLANT BUGS

Several species of true bugs (suborder Heteroptera, order Hemiptera) are occasionally serious pests on citrus. Others are commonly found on citrus but have not been shown to produce economic damage. Growers have been prone to call any and all of these bugs "pumpkin bugs," in spite of the fact that the term includes bugs from more than one family. All of these insects have long,