

# COLLECTIONS OF WINGED APHIDS IN YELLOW PANS IN SOUTH FLORIDA<sup>1</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

Thirteen species of aphids were collected in yellow pans containing water in a squash field at Homestead, Florida. The green peach aphid, *Myzus persicae* (Sulzer), comprised 81% of the aphids collected.

From 1960 to 1964, winged aphids were collected in Southern Florida in traps made of white pans filled with potassium dichromate solution (5 oz/gal water) and it was found that the green peach aphid, *Myzus persicae* (Sulzer), was most abundant in February and March; there were no identifications made of other species present (Wolfenbarger 1966).

During the winter and spring of 1969, pans 4-1/4 × 8-3/4 × 4-1/4 inches, painted with PPG Waterspar® Tulip yellow spray enamel, were half filled with water and placed on the ground within a squash field at Homestead, Florida, where virus diseased plants were present. The virus was presumed to be watermelon mosaic virus 1, based on a study by Adlerz (1969). A weekly summary of the aphid species and numbers collected is given in Table 1.

TABLE 1.—WINGED APHIDS COLLECTED IN YELLOW PANS, HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA, FEBRUARY-APRIL, 1969.

Aphid Species	Week of									
	2-15	2-22	3-1	3-8	3-15	3-22	3-29	4-5	4-12	
<i>Acyrtosiphon pisum</i> (Harris)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
<i>Aphis coreopsidis</i> (Thos.)	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>A. craccivora</i> Koch	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>A. gossypii</i> Glover	2	3	5	0	0	0	1	0	1	
<i>A. rumicis</i> L.	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>A. sambucifoliae</i> Fitch	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	
<i>A. spiraecola</i> Patch	0	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	
<i>Aphis</i> sp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	
<i>Capitophorus braggii</i> (Gillette)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
<i>C. hippophaes</i> (Koch)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
<i>Hyadaphis pseudobrassicae</i> (Davis)	0	2	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	
<i>Myzus persicae</i> (Sulzer)	3	46	25	164	149	19	12	6	2	
<i>Tetraneura hirsuta</i> Baker	0	2	2	3	4	1	0	2	0	
<i>Therioaphis riehmi</i> (Börner)	0	0	0	5	11	7	17	4	0	

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The green peach aphid comprised 81% of the aphids collected and was most numerous the weeks of March 8 and 15. The second most abundant aphid, *Therioaphis riehmii* (Börner), comprised only 8% of the total number of aphids collected. The cotton or melon aphid, *Aphis gossypii* Glover, the only species of those identified from the collections which will colonize on squash, comprised only 2.3% of the total number of aphids collected.

Kennedy, et al. (1962), list the pea aphid, *Acrythosiphon pisum* (Harris), the cotton or melon aphid, and the green peach aphid as vectors of watermelon mosaic virus. While *M. persicae* constituted 81% of the total number of aphids collected, *A. pisum* and *A. gossypii* made up only 0.2% and 2.3%, respectively. Therefore, it is concluded that the green peach aphid is the principle agent responsible for the spread of watermelon mosaic virus in Southern Florida squash fields in early spring.

#### LITERATURE CITED

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