

PSYLLID (COTTONY ASH) (*Psyllopsis discrepans*)**Refer to:**

Table 1; Group 1 (Page 60)

Monitoring Season

Mid season (June – July)

Control Season

Mid season (June – July) for both pesticide and non-pesticide control activity

Rating

Invasive species

Hosts and Damage

- Black and Manchurian ash (*Fraxinus nigra* and *Fraxinus mandshurica*)
- The nymphs have piercing and sucking mouth parts and do not chew leaves
- Leaves become curled and extremely distorted
- Twig and branch die back
- Repeated attacks may kill the tree

Physical Characteristics

- Eggs are elongated, white and barely visible
- Nymphs or immature psyllid are extremely tiny (0.5-1 mm) with orange eyes
- Adults are 2 mm and resemble a cicada or aphid
- Adults have wings and also jump to other host leaves

Biology

- Two generations per year
- Overwinter as eggs on buds, twigs and bark crevices
- First generation larvae emerge at the same time as the leaves (mid to late May)
- Nymphs cause leaf distortion and feed within the leaf curl
- Nymphs produce and live in a cotton like substance within the deformed leaf
- Adults emerge, mate and lay eggs late June and early July
- Second generation emerge mid to late July to repeat the cycle

Why Manage

- Government mandate
- To maintain native species balance and variety (biodiversity)

Monitoring Procedures

- Pre-control monitoring
- Post-control monitoring
- Spot checking

Control Procedures (Eradicate)

- Physical/mechanical: Pruning (larval control; preventative deadwood)
- Pesticide: Insecticidal soap; dormant oil
- Biological: None used at present



A



B



C, D, E



F, G

A) Severe defoliation on an ash tree. B) Pruning out defoliated branches. C) Leaves curled from the outer edges to the inner rib. D) Severely curled leaf. E) Canker on the tree trunk. F) Nymph (immature stage) with cottony substance exuding from its hind section in a curled up leaf. G) Early nymph stage.