Malay apple gall psyllid (366)

Photo 1. Galls on uppersurface of leaves of Syzygium malaccense, caused by Trioza vitiensis.

Photo 2. Heavy incidence of galls on uppersurface of leaves of young Syzygium malaccense plants, caused by Trioza vitiensis.

Photo 3. Close-up of galls on uppersurface of leaves of Syzygium malaccense, caused by Trioza vitiensis.

Photo 4. Close-up of galls on uppersurface of leaves of Syzygium malaccense, caused by Trioza vitiensis.

Photo 5. Nymph of Trioza vitiensis, in the 'cup' of a gall on the underside of a leaf of Syzygium malaccense.

Photo 6. Galls on underside of leaves of Syzygium malaccense, caused by Trioza vitiensis, from which adults have emerged.
Summary

- Restricted distribution. South and Southeast Asia, Oceania. Present in Fiji, FSM, French Polynesia, Samoa.
- Cosmetic problem on mature trees; may set back seedling growth. Eggs laid on new leaves and shoots. Nymphs suck sap from underside of leaf injecting a toxin. Galls form around the nymphs. Adults emerge from gall, 2 mm long, winged with dark veins.
- Spread in wind, and plants in horticultural trade.
- Natural enemies: ladybird beetles, lacewing larvae. Possibly, parasitoid wasps.
- Cultural control: prune plants in nurseries or trees used as hedges (then apply insecticides).
- Chemical control: synthetic pyrethroid, malathion to protect new growth. Imidacloprid not recommended because of effect on bees (unless used outside time of flowering).

Common Name

Leaf gall psyllid, Eugenia psyllid, Malay apple gall psyllid, rose apple psyllid. Psyllids are often referred to as "jumping lice".

Scientific Name

*Trioza vitiensis*; previously, known as *Metatrioza vitiensis*.

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