



Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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Green peach aphid (350)



Photo 1. Adult, wingless, green peach aphid; the white remains of the skin of the last moult remain attached to two aphids.



Photo 2. Nymphs of the green peach aphid, *Myzus persicae*, on capsicum.



Photo 3. Adults and nymphs of the green peach aphid, *Myzus persicae*, on sweetpotato. Note the brown tinge to many of the adults.



Photo 4. Adult, winged, green peach aphid, *Myzus persicae*.

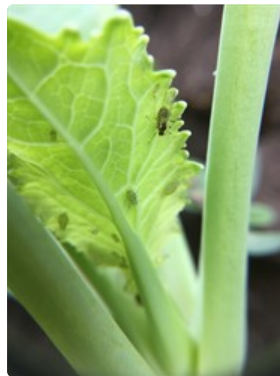


Photo 5. Adult, winged, green peach aphid, *Myzus persicae*.

Summary

- Worldwide distribution. On fruit trees, and many vegetables. An important pest.
- Damage: i) feeds on sap causing distortions and wilts; ii) produces honeydew leading to sooty moulds; and iii) spreads more than 100 viruses.
- Adults, 2 mm long, greenish-yellow, sometimes with brown tinge, winged or wingless, giving birth without fertilisation (in the tropics). No males.
- Spread by winged forms, and also in wind and storms, and trade in plants.

- Natural enemies: predators and wasp parasitoids (*Aphidius* and *Aphelinus*).
- Cultural control: weed; certified seed (beans); avoid planting down-wind from infested crops; remove volunteers; grow flowering plants to attract wasps; inspect crops often - remove infested plants or leaves (or spray); use plastic mulches, row covers; control ants with boiling water; collect and destroy debris after harvest.
- Chemical control: PDPs (chilli, derris, neem, pyrethrum); soap solution, white or horticultural oils. Note, synthetic pyrethroids will kill predators and parasitoids (but useful against ants).

Common Name

Green peach aphid

Scientific Name

Myzus persicae

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¹Information from Swaine G (1971) *Agricultural Zoology in Fiji*. Her Majesty's Stationery Office. London; and CABI (2016) *Myzus persicae* (green peach aphid) Crop Protection Compendium (www.cabi.org/cpc); and Waterhouse DE, Sands DPA (2001) Classical biological control of arthropods in Australia, ACIAR Monograph no. 77, 560pp.; and from *Myzus persicae* (Salzer) Entomology & Nematology, UF/IFAS, University of Florida. (http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/veg/aphid/green_peach_aphid.htm). Photos 1-6 Mani Mua, Sgatoka Research Station, Fiji.

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The mobile application is available from the Google Play Store and Apple iTunes.

