



Cottony Ash Psyllid (*Psyllopsis discrepans*)

WHAT IS A COTTONY ASH PSYLLID?

The cottony ash psyllid is a non-native pest that was found in Saskatoon in 2006 on black and mancana ash. This insect is native to central Europe but has made several appearances in North America including recent infestations in North Dakota, Minnesota and Alberta. To date there is limited information on the biology of the cottony ash psyllid.

Adult psyllids are small, 2.95-3.57 mm in length, and light green to yellow-green in colour with black markings. Because of their size, the presence of cottony psyllids is most easily recognized by the damage they produce. To identify an infestation of cottony ash psyllid, in the canopy of a black or mancana ash look for these initial signs.

WHAT KIND OF DAMAGE DO COTTONY ASH PSYLLIDS CAUSE?

Browning, yellowing and curling of the margins of ash leaflets indicating a 1st generation psyllid population.

White cotton within the curled leaflet margins that roll under and towards the midrib to cover the nymphs.

White cotton along the midrib of an uncurled leaf (2nd generation psyllids).

Occasionally there is white cotton within the leaf-cones rolled by the ash-leaf coneroller, *Caloptilia fraxinella*.

HOW DO I CONTROL COTTONY ASH PSYLLID?

Psyllids are difficult to control because they are difficult to access and are in the affected leaves for a very short time. It is important to keep your trees healthy by not affected the root system and if you think that your black or mancana ash may be infested with cottony ash psyllids, please contact the City of Saskatoon, 975-3300.



Typical Ash Psyllid Damage



Psyllid 'cotton' production



Adult Cottony Ash Psyllid

This information provided by:

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