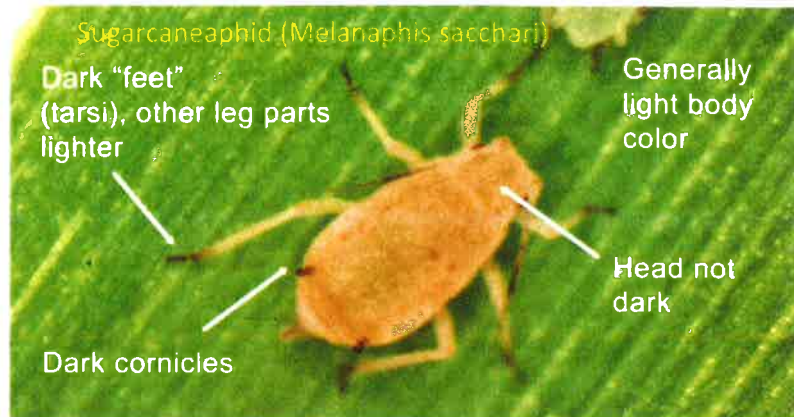


# Sugarcane Aphid In Sorghum

## What are we looking for?

- Light Yellow, Pale Green, Tan
- Black "Socks" - Tarsi
- Black Cornicles
- NO stripe down the back



## WHATS THE BIG DEAL?

To differentiate this pest from the yellow sugarcane aphid, *Sipha flava*, some scientists and grain producers are calling it the "white" sugarcane aphid.

They produced large amounts of honeydew, which choked combines and caused lost grain in northeast Texas and Louisiana. Growers lost up to 50 percent of grain sorghum yield in infested fields during 2013.

**WHERE:** The aphid will colonize on the lower surfaces of the lower leaves and eventually advance to the upper leaves. If not controlled, they have the ability to colonize the grain sorghum head.

Small colonies can quickly grow into large colonies in a short amount of time. With a rapid reproduction rate and the ability to produce the honeydew like substance on leaves, they protect themselves from potential predators.

**DAMAGE:** Aphid feeding causes yellow to red or brown spots on both the bottom and top layer of the leaves. The honeydew substance created may also form a black sooty mold fungus. Infestations of young seedlings can kill young grain plants; later infestations can prevent grain from forming.

**CONTROL:** Small plot tests and field observations indicate that the insecticide Dimethoate 4EC can provide control at 1 pint per acre. However, data from Louisiana and Mexico showed that Dimethoate—Texas A&M Agrilife Extension

Natural predators include ladybugs, syrphid fly larvae, green laceings and parasitic wasps.

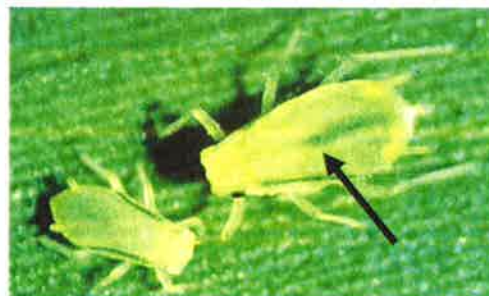
\*Insecticides may be need to prevent honeydew build up and yield loss before harvest.\*

\*Not to be confused with the Greenbug\*

Greenbug (*Schizaphis graminum*)

## **Greenbug:**

- Light Green
- Black "Socks"- Tarsi
- Black Cornicles
- Dark green stripe running front to back



\*Report new sightings to your local Extension Office\*