

CARAGANA APHID—*Acyrtosiphon caraganae*

HOST: Caragana (Siberian peashrub)

IDENTIFICATION, LIFE CYCLE, AND DAMAGE: Caragana aphids are tiny, light green, pear-shaped insects. Adults may be wingless and slightly larger than the nymphs or may possess transparent wings.

Caragana aphids overwinter in the egg stage on branches. Nymphs emerge in the spring and form dense colonies on new shoots and leaves. Several wingless, parthenogenic (females do not mate) generations may be produced. Later, winged adults are produced which move to newly formed seed pods to feed and reproduce additional wingless generations. A final winged generation migrates to branches to lay eggs.

During severe infestations, leaves wilt and drop prematurely.

CONTROL: Spray foliage of high value trees with malathion, acephate, or chlorpyrifos when aphid colonies first appear. Parasites and predators of the aphids, which frequently control outbreaks and help maintain low populations, are also killed by these insecticides.



Caragana aphids