First record of the mealy plum aphid *Hyalopterus pruni* (Geoffroy) (Homoptera, Aphidoidea) in Madeira island.

Azorean Biodiversity Group

Referência


Resumo

During a scientific expedition to Madeira Island organized by the Department of Biology of the University of the Azores, in September 1997, for studying neozemlids associated with some crops, the second author (A.O. Soares) collected 14 aphid samples, one of them containing the mealy plum aphid, *Hyalopterus pruni* (Geoffroy, 1762), a species until then unknown in the archipelago of Madeira and a potential threat to some Prunus crops. The first author (F.A. Ilharco) considers *Hyalopterus angustior* (Blanchard) a possible synonym of *H. pruni*. In Macaronesia, *H. pruni* is already known in Canary islands (Nefts et al. 1977), and van Hattem (1995) registered it from Cape Verde islands. It is a cosmopolitan aphid species, with Prunus trees as primary hosts and the grasses *Arrabida donax* L. and *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steudel (= *P. communis* L.) as secondary hosts. In Madeira Island it was collected on *Arrabida donax* on 26 September 1997 in Sãaúna, Fajã da Rocha do-Barrão. In continental Portugal, *H. pruni* is a common species, either on primary hosts or *Arrabida* and *Phragmites*. A large population was also seen on cultivated bamboo (Ilharco, 1996).