

PEST: Citrus Blackfly (*Aleurothrixus woglumi*)

BASIC PROFILE: CBF is a whitefly pest primarily of citrus, although it also may affect many ornamental plants and some fruit trees. CBF eggs are tiny, yellow and elongated and are laid on short pedicels on the underside of young citrus leaves in a circular pattern. They darken before hatching. Immatures are brown to charcoal color and are not mobile. Pupae are black with spines on their back, and develop a white fringe of waxy secretion. Adults are ~ 1-2 mm (<1/8") with dark grey or blue-grey colored wings. Sooty mold often is associated with the CBF. Feeding activity can damage new leaves. Sooty mold growing on honeydew can cause reduced fruit set and loss of crop yields. There are several tiny wasp parasites that assist in biocontrol of CBF. Although these wasp populations may lag behind those of the CBF, they work better than chemical controls. Naturally-occurring or reared and released wasp populations help in control.

LDAF ACTIVITY: LDAF conducts surveys for CBF as part of an overall citrus program. LSU Extension involvement is likely also. Survey consists of inspections at high-risk sites (citrus groves or nurseries). There are no federal restrictions in place. Natural biocontrol through wasp parasitism is expected to be the preferred management tool. LDAF may be asked to assist in wasp releases along with Extension personnel.



Adult



Heavy Infestation



Eggs



Pupae