Greenidea ficicola Takahashi (Hemiptera: Greenideidae), a New Aphid in Brazil

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Greenidea ficicola Takahashi (Hemiptera: Greenideidae), um Novo Afídeo no Brasil

RESUMO - Greenidea ficicola Takahashi (Hemiptera: Greenideidae) foi coletado pela primeira vez na região Neotropical no município de São Carlos, região sudeste do Brasil. Foram encontradas formas ápteras em Ficus microcarpa L. (Moraceae) em setembro de 2003 e setembro de 2004.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: Aphidoidea, Ficus microcarpa, forma áptera

ABSTRACT - Greenidea ficicola Takahashi (Hemiptera: Greenideidae) is recorded in the Neotropical Region. G. ficicola was collected in the municipality of São Carlos, São Paulo State, Southeastern Brazil. The specimens are apterous forms collected on Ficus microcarpa L. (Moraceae) leaves in September 2003 and September 2004.

KEY WORDS: Aphidoidea, Ficus, apterous form

Greenidea ficicola Takahashi (Hemiptera: Greenideidae) is readily recognized by the dark, long (at least one third of body length), hairy siphunculi and apically curved siphunculi. The body is pear-shaped, yellowish-brown to dark-brown in apterous forms. Alate forms have an elongate body with dark-brown abdomen, and siphunculi up to two-thirds of body length (Blackman & Eastop 2000).

As far as we know, this is the first report of G. ficicola in Brazil or in the Neotropics. The use of exotic and native Ficus species as ornamental trees in parks or streets is widely adopted in Southeast Brazil, and the international trade with Asian countries have increased in the past two decades. It is believed that these two factors may explain the occurrence of G. ficicola in South America. Several commercial orchards grow common fig in Southeast Brazil. Therefore, further studies about G. ficicola as a possible pest in Brazilian fig orchards are recommended.

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