

A New Aphid.

BY JAMES TROOP.

Aphis houghtonensis n. sp.

During the summer of 1904 plant lice were discovered to be very abundant in a field of Houghton gooseberries, near the city of Indianapolis. The peculiar manner in which they worked attracted attention, and specimens were taken and sent to Dr. L. O. Howard, at Washington, who pronounced it a new species. Drawings were accordingly made by Mr. Heidemann of the Division of Entomology.



FIG. 1.

In the field of gooseberries mentioned, there were scattering plants of another variety and it was noticed that none of these plants were infested by the *Aphis*. I then made several attempts during the summer of 1904 and also 1905 to colonize them on various other varieties of gooseberry, but in no case did I succeed in inducing them to feed. They multiplied so rapidly, however, upon the Houghton, that the owner was obliged to give up the fight, after two seasons' experience,

and destroy the entire five acres of plants. Hence I have designated it as *Aphis houghtonensis*. Fig. 1 shows the peculiar manner in which it crumples the leaves.

Description.—The wingless females of the summer broods are about one-sixteenth of an inch in length, of a pale green color, and somewhat hairy; eyes prominent; antennæ and legs of a yellowish tint and covered with scattering short spines, except the terminal joint of the antennæ. Antennæ a little more than half the length of the body; honey tubes prominent, nearly as long as from their base to the

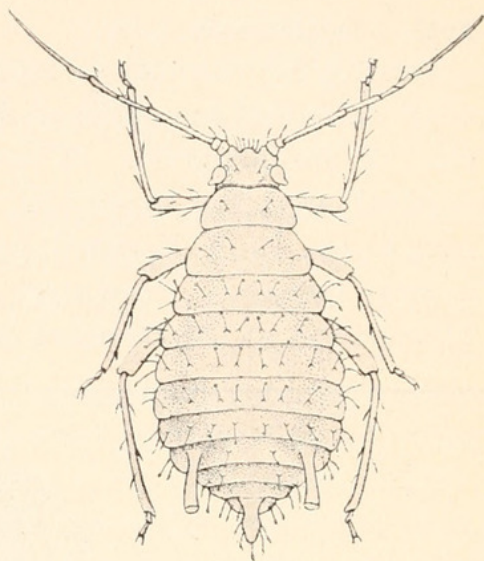


FIG. 2.

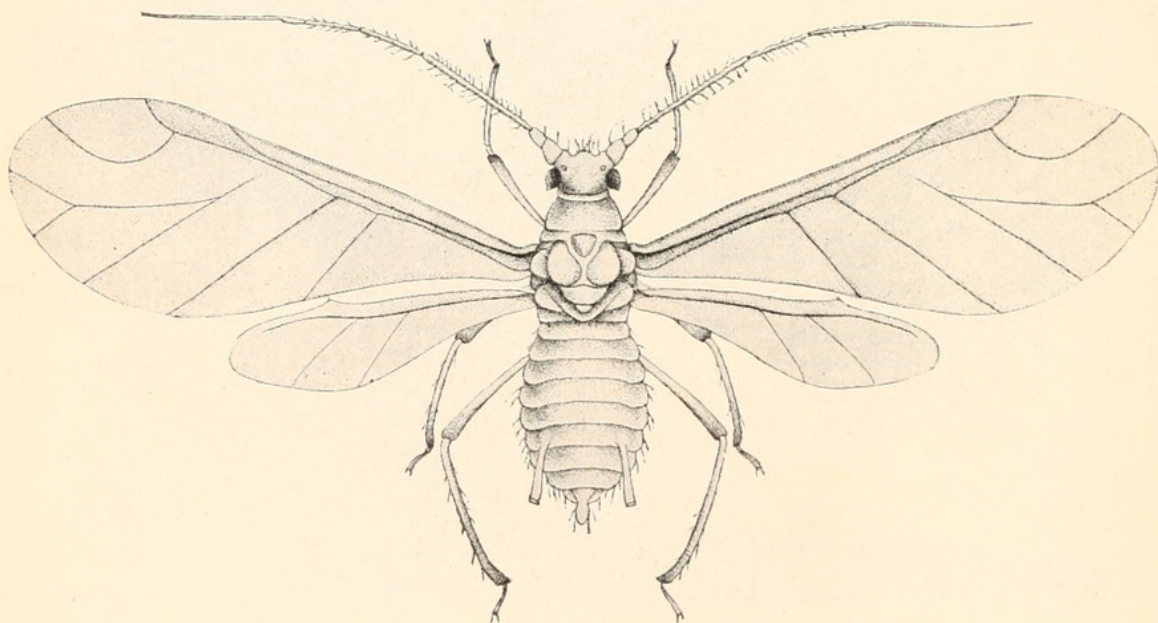


FIG. 3.

tip of the abdomen (Fig. 2). The winged forms measure nearly three-sixteenths of an inch to the tips of the wings when folded. Color of the wings and body a shade darker than the wingless forms; antennæ nearly one-half longer than the body; spread of wings three times the length of the body; eyes somewhat darker than the wingless form, while the legs are not as spiny; honey tubes about the same length in both forms. (Fig. 3).



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