



Passionvine hopper

Scolytopa australis (Walker, 1885)

TOP VIEW OF ADULT PVH.

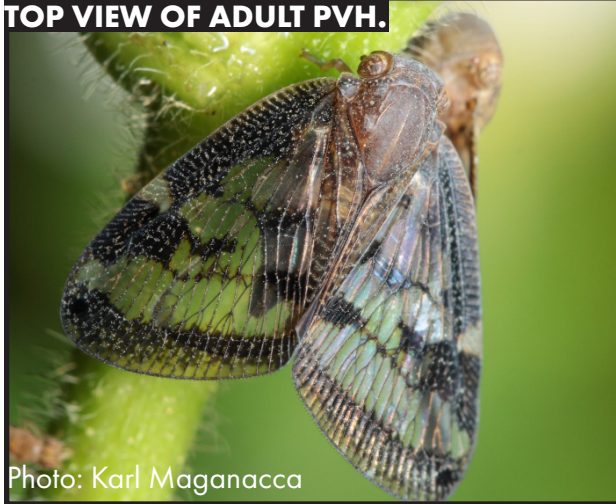


Photo: Karl Maganacca

PASSIONVINE HOPPER (PVH)

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Scolytopa australis* (Walker, 1885)
Hemiptera: Ricaniidae

FIRST DETECTED: Palikea trailhead, end of Palehua Road, Wai'anāe Mountain Range, in early July 2020. A closer inspection revealed the unusually large hopper infesting several naturalized plants in immediate area.

LOCATION: Only reported on O'ahu as of December 2021

SIDE VIEW OF ADULT PVH.



Photo: Karl Maganacca

ADULTS FEEDING ON A DOG TAIL STEM.



Photo: Karl Maganacca

PVH NYMPHS.



Photo: Karl Maganacca

NYMPHS FEEDING ON A STEM.



Photo: Nicholas A. Martin

Passionvine hopper

Scolyopa australis (Walker, 1885)

ADULT AND NYMPHS ON TI LEAF.

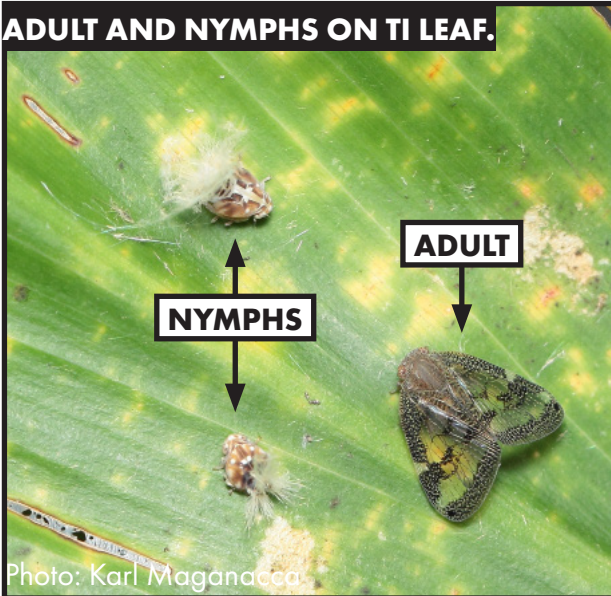


Photo: Karl Maganacca

DAMAGE FROM EGGS LAID BELOW SURFACE BY PVH ADULTS IN A DEAD TWIG.



Photo:
Nicholas A. Martin

UNCOVERED EGGS LAID BELOW SURFACE BY PVH ADULTS IN A DEAD TWIG.



Photo:
Nicholas A. Martin

COLLECTED ON†:

*Blechnum appendiculatum** (a fern)
Buddleja asiatica (dog tail)
Cordyline fruticosa (ti)
*Cyanea superba** (hāhā)
Cyclosorus parasiticus (parasitic maiden fern)
Dracaena fragrans (corn plant)
Hedychium flavescens (yellow ginger)
*Kadua affinis** (manono)
Lophostemon confertus (brush box)
Olea europaea (European olive)
Philodendron spp. (philodendron)
*Pipturus albidus** (māmaki)
Pilea cadierei (aluminum plant)
Pluchea carolinensis (sourbush)
*Psidium cattleianum** (strawberry guava)
Ricinis communis (castor bean)
Rubus rosifolius (thimbleberry)
Schinus terebinthifolius (Christmasberry)
Verbena litoralis (vervain)

CONCERN:

This report represents a new U.S. and Hawai'i State record. Feeding can cause shoots and growing tips to wilt, stunt, and possibly die back. Honeydew excreted by PVH may lead to growth of sooty mold that may reduce plant health and the aesthetic value. Additionally, egg insertion can damage soft plant stems, leaf midribs, stalks, and tendrils. In other countries, like New Zealand, PVH has been reported on more than 100 hosts.

† This list represents plants that PVH was collected on in Hawai'i. This does not necessarily mean they complete their life cycle on these plants. Further examination of multiple life stages is needed to determine which plants in Hawai'i support the entire life cycle of PVH.

* Only one or two adults were found on the plant at the time of the surveys.

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