



# Psyllid



## Main problem Species:

Tomato Potato Psyllid (TPP) (*Bactericera cockerelli*)

## Lifecycle:

Egg, 5 nymphal instars, adult

## Egg to egg:

Shortest time, 19 days, at 27°C. Increases to 45 days at 10°C.

## Scouting tips:

Eggs are easily visible around leaf margins from below. Adults may be observed on sticky traps or sitting on leaves. Once eggs hatch the juveniles cover the plant surface in "psyllid Sugars" and liquid excreted sugars leading to a sticky, dirty plant. Over time plants can appear stunted (psyllid yellows) or die due to liberibacter, a bacteria like organism spread by psyllid as they feed.

## POTENTIAL CONTROL MEASURES:

- Early *Engytatus nicotinae* releases to establish a predator population
- *Buchananiella whitei* for spot control, especially of juvenile stages
- Yellow traps for adults
- Agchem solution

## What do I do?

### Just a few:

- Sticky traps can suppress small localised populations
- Physical mode of action sprays can rapidly reduce a localised population
- *Buchananiella whitei* effectively cleans up juvenile populations
- *Engytatus nicotinae* releases can totally suppress psyllid if introduced early enough
- *Tamarixia triozae*, a tiny parasitic wasp (similar to *Encarsia formosa*) feeds on small TPP larvae and parasitises large larvae. A useful psyllid predator but not as effective as *Engytatus nicotinae*.

### Doing damage:

If a liberibacter carrying population is present use physical spray or soft agchem to quickly control the population, then release *Engytatus nicotinae* to prevent re-infestation.

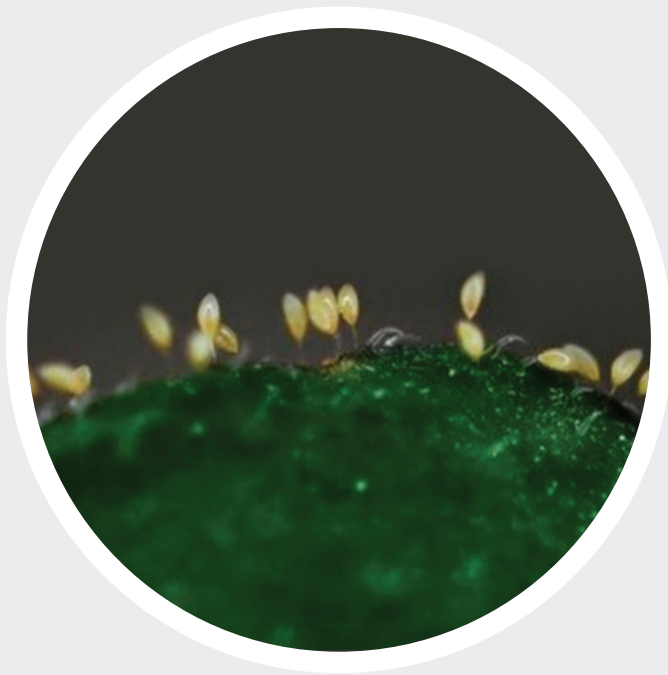
### Ongoing Issue:

- Try to remove the source
- Introduce an *Engytatus nicotinae* population
- Use sticky traps to monitor adult populations
- Use soft chemical options as required



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# What you'll observe:



**Psyllid egg**



**Green psyllid nymph with  
black *Buchananiella whitei***