

Phloeomyzus passerinii (Poplar woolly aphid)

What does it attack?

It attacks poplars as soon as they reach canopy closure (5-7 years). The most susceptible clones are the Euramericans (e.g. 'I-214', 'MC').

How to identify it?

At the beginning of the attack, wax filaments cover the cracks in the trunk. It usually starts at the top of the trunk (**Fig. 1**).

If the severity of the attack is high, the filaments cover the entire bark and may even fall to the ground, with a woolly white appearance (**Fig. 2**).

The aphid, just over 1 mm long, can be seen between the wax filaments (**Fig. 3**).

What damage does it cause?

When feeding, it introduces a toxic substance that produces reactions in the tree tissues and causes the drying of the wood and the disruption of the sap movement. As a consequence, it weakens the tree, and can even kill it.

When to see it?

The wax filaments can be seen from May to the end of August.

You can find more information about this pest by clicking on this [link](#).



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3