

BIOLOGY OF A GALL MIDGE PROCONTARINIA SP.
AND ASSOCIATED PARASITES ON MANGO
(MAGNIFERA INDICA L.) IN JAFFNA PENINSULA

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Two types of galls were found on leaves of Mango trees (Magnifera indica L.) in Jaffna peninsula -- a large multilocular gall 5-10mm in diameter on the upper surface of the leaf and a smaller gall 1-2 mm in diameter on the lower surface. Both were inhabited by a dipteran Cecidomyiid belonging to Procontarinia sp., one of the nine species pest on Mango (Gagne 1973).

The midge larva is characterized by a sternal spatula and the pupa by a pair of respiratory tubes at the anterior end. The adult midge average 2.48 mm long, with long slender legs, moniliform antennae and hairy wings.

The larger galls are parasitized by Mangostigmus amraeus (Kurian) belonging to the family Torymidae and superfamily Chalcidoidea. The adults average 2.95 mm long, and are metallic brown in colour, with clear wings with reduced venation and well developed ovipositor.

The smaller galls on the lower surface of leaves contain the parasite Platygaster sp. belonging to the family Platygasteridae and superfamily Proctotrupoidea. The adults average 1.14 mm long, and are black in colour and shiny, with clear veinless wings and poorly developed ovipositor.

References:

- Gagne, R.J. (1973) Family Cecidomyiidae. In: Delfinado, M.D. and D.E. Hardy (Eds) A catalogue of the Diptera of the Oriental Region. Vol 1. University Press, Honolulu, Hawaii.