

## D-28: New records of aphids from Sri Lanka

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Aphids (Hemiptera:Aphididae) are a group of plant sap feeding insects able to transmit viral diseases in plants.

Only 48 species of aphids belonging to 25 genera have been recorded from Sri Lanka; of these 19 species are potential viral vectors.

Initial findings of a survey on the aphid fauna in and around Peradeniya are presented.

Thirty two species of aphids belonging to 21 genera were collected from 130 plants species. Of these, 12 species had not been recorded previously from Sri Lanka. These 12 species belonged to 7 genera so far unrecorded from this country. Of these 12 species, 7 are well known potential viral vectors.

The newly recorded aphid \* genera and species are: \**Acyrtosiphon gossypii* Mordvilko, *Aphis nasturtii* Kaltentbach, \**Ceratovacuna* sp., \**Hysteroneura setariae* (Thomas), \**Melanaphis* sp., *Myzus ascalonicus* Doncaster, *Rhopalosiphum padi* (L), \**Rhodobium porosum* (Sanderson), *Sitobion avenae* (Fabricius), *Sitobion wickstroemiae* (Mamet), \**Tinocallis kahuwaluokalani* (Kirkaldy) and \**Uroleucon minutus* (van der Goot).

Of the above species *Sitobion wickstroemiae* on the shrub *Wikstromia indica* has so far been recorded from East Africa and Mauritius only. *Uroleucon minutus* on the common weed *Vernonia cinera* is a very rare aphid species. The remaining aphid species have been recorded from neighbouring India.

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