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| --- | --- |
| Logo AGES | |
| American grapevine aphid | |
|  |  |
| 22.07.2025 18:14 Uhr | |

**American
grapevine
aphid**

**Aphis
illinoisensis**

Last
change:
07.09.2023

**Profile**

The
American
grapevine
aphid
is
a
new
pest
species
in
grapevine
crops
in
southern
Europe.
It
feeds
on
plant
sap
and
can
thus
damage
its
host
plants.



Amerikanische
Rebenblattlaus

**Appearance**

American
vine*aphids
(Aphis
illinoisensis*)
are
only
2
to
2.5
mm
in
size,
have
a
soft
body,
and
are
reddish-brownish
to
black
in
color.
They
ingest
plant
sap
with
their
stylet-like
proboscis.
Grapevine
aphids
have
two
dorsal
tubes
(siphons)
on
their
bodies.
These
serve
to
release
a
defensive
secretion
with
wax
cells
when
threatened,
which
smears
the
mouthparts
of
small
attackers
and
thus
protects
the
aphids.

**Biology**

The
American
vine
aphid
belongs
to
the
tubular
aphid
family
(Aphididae).
The
aphids
overwinter
as
an
egg
on
snowball*(Viburnum
prunifolium*).
In
spring,
they
form
colonies
and
reproduce
over
several
generations
by
means
of
virgin
reproduction
(parthenogenesis),
and
then
form
a
winged,
sexually
reproducing
generation.
This
then
flies
onto
the
vine.
In
the
fall,
the
winged
females
return
to
snowball
and
lay
eggs
for
overwintering.

**Damage
symptoms**

In
viticulture,
the
American
grapevine
aphid
is
a
significant
pest
in
some
areas.
American
grapevine
aphids
feed
on
the
sap
of
the
plant.
When
they
occur
in
masses,
significant
damage
to
the
host
plant
can
result.
By
withdrawing
plant
sap
from
the
leading
tissue
(phloem),
the
infested
vine
loses
carbohydrates
and
nitrogen.
In
the
long
term,
severely
infested
canes
may
show
signs
of
emaciation
and
stunted
growth.
As
a
result,
the
grapes
may
drop
off.
The
American
grapevine
aphid
does
not
transmit
viruses
dangerous
to
grapevines.

**Host
plants**

The
primary
host
plant
of
the
American
grapevine
aphid
is
*Viburnus
prunifolium*
(snowball).
Secondary
host
plants
are
species
of
grapevine
family
(Vitaceae)
including
the
genera
*Ampelocissus*,
*Parthenocissus,
Cissus*
and
*Vitis*.

**Distribution**

*A.
illinoisensis*
is
widespread
in
the
USA,
Central
and
South
America.
Since
2003,
the
American
grapevine
aphid
has
also
been
found
in
Turkey.
From
there
it
has
spread
to
Greece,
Montenegro,
and
Albania.
It
is
also
now
found
in
Israel,
Tunisia,
Algeria,
Malta,
Cyprus,
Italy
and
Spain.

**Propagation
and
transmission**

In
addition
to
the
nonwinged
forms
of
the
American
grapevine
aphid,
there
are
also
winged
forms
that
can
fly
comparatively
far.

**Prevention
and
control**

Control
of
American
grapevine
aphids
is
advisable
only
in
cases
of
heavy
infestation.
They
have
a
number
of
natural
enemies.
These
include
ladybugs,
velvet
mites,
lacewing
larvae,
predatory
bugs,
predatory
mites
and
spiders.

As
a
plant
sap
sucker,
the
American
grapevine
aphid
can
be
controlled
relatively
easily
with
systemic
plant
protection
products
(see
[list
of
plant
protection
products
approved
in
Austria)](https://www.baes.gv.at/zulassung/pflanzenschutzmittel/pflanzenschutzmittelregister/)
.

**Phytosanitary
status**

In
the
EU,
the
American
grapevine
aphid
is
not
listed
as
a
quarantine
harmful
organism
(QSO).

**Services**

[Plant
Health
Services](en/plant/plant-health/plant-health-information)