

## APHIDS ON MEDICINAL AND AROMATIC PLANTS IN EGYPT (HEMIPTERA: APHIDIDAE)

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### ABSTRACT

Aphids are considered serious sap-sucking pests of several plants all over the world. Aphids on medicinal and aromatic plants in Egypt were surveyed throughout the period between 2013 and 2015. Nine aphid species belonging to six genera all represented sub-family Aphidinae were recorded on 26 medicinal and aromatic host plants from different localities in Egypt. Identification taxonomic key for the nine species was designed. Synonyms, historical review, host plants and distribution in Egypt for each aphid species were provided.

**Keywords:** Survey, Identification, Taxonomic key, Host plants, Medicinal plants, Aromatic plants, Synonyms, Distribution, Egypt.

### INTRODUCTION

Over the centuries, the use of medicinal and aromatic plants has become an important part of daily life despite the progress in modern medical and pharmaceutical industry. They are now being progressively cosmetics, foods and teas, as well as alternative medicines. The growing interest in herbs and their ability to offer economical uses is a part of the movement towards greener economics and life styles (Ghorbanpour *et al.*, 2017).

Medicinal and aromatic plants, like crop plants, are also afflicted by arthropod pests including aphids (Gupta, 1991; Abdel-Moniem and Abdel-

Wahab, 2006; Pal and Sarkar, 2009; Salem, 2009; Bhagat, 2012; Amin *et al.*, 2017). Aphids cause direct damage by sucking plant sap as well as cause indirect damage by secreting honeydew that attract many insects such as flies, ants and wasps, moreover sooty mold will start to grow and finally photosynthesis and yield will be reduced. Furthermore, aphids are responsible for transferring viral diseases from infested plants to healthy plants. (Chan *et al.*, 1991 and Blackman & Eastop 2000). Surveying aphids on medicinal and aromatic plants attracted many authors all over the world who recorded many aphid species on these plants (Dawood, 1971; Blackman & Eastop 1984; El-Kordy *et al.*, 1999; Karkanis *et al.*, 2011 and Bhagat, 2012; Bayhan *et al.*, 2014). The present work aims at surveying aphid species infest certain medicinal and aromatic plants in Egypt.

### MATERIAL AND METHODS

**Collecting and preservation:** Aphids were collected from plant vegetation using a camel hair brush, jarring the foliage on a white paper sheet and specimens were transferred into vials containing 70% alcohol, with few drops of glycerin to the laboratory for the proper identification.

**Specimens mounting:** Collected aphid species alate forms were previously killed in 70% ethyl alcohol. After being killed and preserved, they were cleaned with distilled water and macerated in a 10% sodium hydroxide solution for several times, then washed in 5% glacial acetic acid. Afterwards samples were dehydrated by series of ethyl alcohol concentration of 50, 70, 80, 90, 95 and 100%, respectively. To have clear specimens, samples were cleared by soaking fresh chloral-phenol solution (1 vol. chloral hydrate: 1 vol.

phenol). Cleared specimens were transferred to clean glass slide with drops of Swan's gum chloral medium (El-Kady, 1959), covered with clean slide cover and kept on a hot plate at 40°C for 3 days to dry.

**Species identification:** Different aphid species were identified using available taxonomic keys developed by Habib and El-Kady, 1961; Martin, 1983; Blackman & Eastop, 1994 and 2008.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Nine aphid species belonging to six genera all of them represented Sub-Family: Aphidinae and classified into two tribes Aphidini and Macrosiphini were found infesting 26 medicinal and aromatic plant species belonging to 12 plant families (Table, 1). Tribe Aphidini is represented in this study by four aphid species all of them belonging to genus *Aphis*; *A. fabae* (Scopoli), *A. gossypii* (Glover), *A. nasturtii* Kaltenbach and *A. nerii* Boyer de Fonscolombe, while five aphid species belonging to five genera were belonging to tribe Macrosiphini; *Acyrtosiphon pisum* (Harris), *Brevicoryne brassicae* Van Der Goot, *Hyadophis coriandri* (Das), *Macrosiphum rosae* (Linnaeus) and *Myzus persicae* (Sülzer).

**Key to the surveyed aphid genera and species on medicinal and aromatic plants in Egypt**

1. Lateral abdominal tubercles present on segments 1 and 7..... *Aphis*  
This genus is represented here by four species named; *fabae*, *gossypii*, *nastrutii* and *nerii*.
  - Lateral abdominal tubercles absent on segments 1 and 7..... 2
- 2(1). Frontal tubercles well developed. Siphunculi elongate..... 3
  - Frontal tubercles not or not well developed. Siphunculi short..... 5
- 3(2). Frontal tubercles converging. Rhinaria on 4<sup>th</sup> antennal segment only.  
Dorsum with black patch.....*Myzus*  
This genus is represented here by one species only named *persicae*
  - Frontal tubercles diverging. Rhinaria on 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment only.  
Dorsum without black patch..... 4
- 4(3). Post-siphuncular sclerites present. Siphunculi with polygonal reticulated apex.....*Macrosiphum*  
This genus is represented here by one species only named *rosae*
  - Post-siphuncular sclerites absent. Siphunculi without polygonal reticulated apex.....*Acyrosiphon*  
This genus is represented here by one species only named *pisum*
- 5(1). Rhinaria on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> antennal segments. Frontal tubercles not well developed. Cauda elongate.....*Hyadaphis*  
This genus is represented here by one species only named *corandri*
  - Rhinaria on 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> antennal segments. Frontal tubercles not developed. Cauda triangular.....*Brevicoryne*  
This genus is represented here by one species only named *brassicae*

Genus *Aphis* This genus is represented on medicinal and aromatic plants in Egypt by four species.

**Key to species**

1. Abdominal tergites 7 and 8 with black markings..... *fabae*
- Abdominal tergites without markings..... 2
- Post-siphuncular sclerites present and large. Unguis about 3 times as long as the basal part..... *nerii*
- 2(1). Post-siphuncular sclerites absent or small when present. Unguis variable..... 3
- Secondary rhinaria confined to the 3<sup>rd</sup> antennal segment only. Siphunculi dark. Femural hair short..... *gossypii*
- 3(2). Secondary rhinaria present on 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> antennal segments. Siphunculi pale. Femural hairs long..... *nastrutii*

**Tribe: Aphidini**

**Aphis fabae (Scopoli.)**

Broad bean aphid

**Synonyms:**

*Aphis aparines* Fabricius, 1775

*Aphis atriplicis* Fabricius, 1775 nec Linnaeus, 1758

*Aphis hortensis* Fabricius, 1781

*Aphis acanthi* Schrank, 1801

*Aphis fabae* Blanchard, 1840

This species was recorded for the first time in Egypt by Hall, 1926 under the name *Aphis compositae* and compared it with *Aphis solanella*.

**Host plants and geographical distribution in Egypt:** During the present work, this species was collected from different localities in Egypt from six ornamental plant species; Celery, Pot marigold, Chamomile, Sunflower,

African marigold, Sweet basil from four different governorates; Fayoum, Qalyubiya, Giza and Sharqia

Abul-Nasr *et al.* (1975) recorded this species infesting many cut-flowering plants in certain regions of Egypt. Semeda *et al.* (2004) recorded *Aphis fabae* on different host plants such as hibiscus (*Hibiscus rosae*) and fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*) in North Sinai, Egypt. Zümreoğlu and Akbulut (1992) in Turkey determined the effects of *A. fabae* infestation on the oil and morphine contents and seed weight of poppy (*papaver somniferum*).

***Aphis gossypii* (Glover, 1877)**

Cotton aphid

**Synonyms:**

*Aphis gossypii* (Glover.) 1877

*Aphis ligustrella* (Theobald.) 1913

*Aphis hederella* (Theobald.) 1915

*Aphis bauhiniae* (Theobald.) 1918

*Aphis ficus* (Theobald.) 1918

This species was first recorded in Egypt by Theobald (1918) under the name *Aphis bauhinia* on *Bauhinia* sp., Willcocks (1922) surveyed *A. gossypii* on violets at Cairo. Eastop (1958) and Hall (1926) recorded specimens of *Aphis ficus* that was considered as synonym of *A. gossypii*.

**Host plants and geographical distribution in Egypt:** During the present work, this species was collected from 18 aromatic and medicinal plant species from different localities in Egypt. Willcocks (1922) recorded this species on citrus trees in Egypt. Abul-Nasr *et al.* (1975) detected this species infesting many cut-flowering plants in certain regions of Egypt. Elnagar *et al.* (1979)

recorded this species on three wild plant species in Giza Governorate. Attia (1983) found this species infesting citrus and apple trees in Egypt. Also Attia and El Hamaky (1992) recorded this species on many vegetable plants in Sinai Governorate.

***Aphis nasturtii* Kaltenbach, 1843**

Buckthorn-potato aphid

**Synonyms:**

*Aphis abbreviata* Patch, 1912

*Aphis acetosella* Theobald, 1918

*Aphis bulleri* Robinson & Rojanavongse, 1976

*Aphis cathartica*

*Aphis crispi*

*Aphis githaginella*

*Aphis insons* Hottes, 1930

*Aphis linguae*

*Aphis mathiolae* Theobald, 1917

*Aphis neopolygona*

*Aphis pedicularis* Buckton, 1879

*Aphis plantaginifolia* Nevsky, 1929

*Aphis rhamni*

*Aphis transiens* Walker, 1849

*Aphis zizyphi* Theobald, 1917

This species was recorded for the first time in Egypt as *A. acetosella* by Theobald, 1918 from *Rumex dentatus* and *Papaver* sp.

**Host plants and geographical distribution in Egypt:** During the period of this work, this species was collected from five aromatic and medicinal plant species; *Calendula officinalis*, *Tagetes erecta*, *Salanum laciniatum*, *Mentha peperita* and *Chrysanthemum* sp., from three governorates; Qalyobiya, Giza and Sharqiya. Abul-Nasr *et al.* (1975) recorded this species infesting many cut-flowering plants in certain regions of Egypt.

***Aphis nerii* Boyer de Fonscolombe, 1841**

Oleander aphid, Milkweed aphid

**Synonyms:**

*Aphis asclepiadis* (Passerini, 1863).

*Aphis calotropidis* Del Guercio, 1916.

*Aphis foveolata* Del Guercio, 1916

*Aphis gomphoricarpi* Eastop & Hille Ris Lambers, 1976

*Aphis leptadeniae* (Vuillet & Vuillet, 1914).

*Aphis lutescens* Monell, 1879

*Aphis neriastri* Boisduval 1867.

*Aphis nerii* Boyer de Fonscolombe, 1841

*Aphis nigripes* Theobald, 1914

*Aphis paolii* Del Guercio, 1916

This species was recorded for the first time in Egypt by Theobald, 1915 on six host plants.

**Host plants and geographical distribution in Egypt:** During the present work, this species was collected from three ornamental plant species; Jasmine, Spearmint and Bunch flower from five different governorates;



Sharqyia, Qalyubiya, Fayoum, Beni-suef and Giza. Attia and El Hamaky (1992) recorded this species on two vegetable plants in Sinai Governorate.

**Tribe: Macrosiphini**

**Acyrtosiphon pisum (Harris, 1776)**

Pea aphid

**Synonyms:**

- Aphis pisum by Harris (1776)
- Aphis onobrychis B.d.f., Annsa (184)
- Aphis lathuychis mosley (1841)
- Aphis pisi kaitenbach mono.
- Siphonophore spartii Koch.(1955)
- Siphonophore ononis Koch.(1955)
- Siphonophore pist Koch (1955)
- Nectarophora pist sanderson. Delware (1900)
- Macrosiphum pisi (Kait.) (1901)
- Macrosiphum trifoih pergand.(1904)
- Macrosiphum ononts schoutedenn, us (1906)
- Acyrtosiphon pist mordwilko, faune(1914)
- Acyrtosiphon pisum Hille (1947)

This species was recorded for the first time in Egypt by Theobald (1915) under the name of Macrosiphum pisi (Kait.) on broad beans and sweet beans, then Willcooks, 1922 and Hall, 1926 added nine new host plants

**Host plants and geographical distribution in Egypt:** During the present work, this species was collected on *Sonchus maritima* at Qalubiya

Governorate only. Abul-Nasr *et al.* (1975) recorded this species infesting many cut-flowering plants in certain regions of Egypt.

**Brevicoryne brassicae Van Der Goot, 1915.**

Cabbage aphid

**Synonyms:**

*Aphis brassicae* L., system nature (Editio decime) 1758.

*Siphocoryne brassicae* Davis, canad. Ent., XLIV (1914)

*Brevicoryne brassicae vanderhoot*. Beitragez. Kennt. Holl. Blattiause. (1915).

The first record of this species in Egypt was by Willcocks (1922) on cabbage and by Hall (1926) on turnip, cauliflower, radish and ornamental stocks. Habib and El-Kady (1961) described this species in Egypt.

**Host plants and geographical distribution in Egypt:** Collection of this species from different localities in Egypt occurred during 2013 to 2015 seasons from foeniculum, cauliflower, cabbage radish and turnip, at Fayoum, Beni suef, Qalybyia and Sharqyia Governorates.

Azab *et al.* (1965) recorded this species on Brussels. Amin and El-Dafrawy (1981) recorded this species on cabbage. Attia and El Hamaky (1992) recorded this species on two vegetable plants in Sinai Governorate.

**Hyadaphis coriandri (Das, 1918).**

Coriander aphid

**Synonyms:**

*Hyadaphis coriandri* (Das). After EC stop (1958).

*Hyaloterus obscurus* Theobald (1922).

*Hyalopterus carii*.theobald, after Eastop (1985)

*Hyalopterus peucedani* Hall, after Eastop (1985)

*Hyalopterus conica* Börner.after Eastop (1985)

This species was recorded for the first time in Egypt by Theobald (1918) on fennel under the name of *Hyalopterus obscurus* n. sp. (Willcocks collection).

**Host plants and geographical distribution in Egypt:** During the present work, this species was collected from three medicinal and aromatic plants from different localities of Egypt. Hall (1926) collected it from *Anethum* sp., *Daucus carota*, *Coriandrum sativum*, *Andropogon* sp., and *Pithyranthus tortuosus*. Habib and El-Kady (1961) recorded it on fennel under the name *Hyalopterus obscurus*. Attia and El Hamaky (1992) recorded this species on two vegetable plants in Sinai Governorate.

**Macrosiphum rosae (Linnaeus, 1758).**

Rose aphid

**Synonyms:**

*Aphis dipsaci* Schrank

*Aphis rosae* Linnaeus

*Aphis scabiosae* Scopoli

*Macrosiphon rosae* (L.)

*Macrosiphum rosae* subsp. *fragaricola* Hille Ris Lambers

*Macrosiphum rosae* subsp. *orientale* Mordvilko

*Macrosiphum rosae* subsp. *vasiljevi* Mordvilko

*Macrosiphum rosae* var. *azerbaidshanica* Rusanova

*Macrosiphum rosae* var. *scabiosae* Rusanova

*Nectarophora rosae* Oestlund

*Passerinia rosae* Macchiati

*Siphonophora fragariae* Koch

*Siphonophora rosae* Buckton

*Siphonophora rosae* var. *glauca* Buckton

*Siphonophora rosaecola* Passerini

This species was recorded for the first time in Egypt by Willcocks, 1922 and Hall, 1926

**Host plants and geographical distribution in Egypt:** During the present work, this species was collected from four medicinal and aromatic plants belonging to three families from different localities of Egypt. Abul-Nasr et al. (1975) recorded this species infesting many cut-flowering plants in certain regions of Egypt.

***Myzus persicae* (Sülzer, 1776).**

Green peach aphid

**Synonyms:**

*Aphis persicae* sulzer.

*Rhopalosiphum lactucellum* Theobald (1915)

*Myzus persicae* Sülzer after Hall (1926).

This species was recorded in Egypt for the first time by Hall (1926). Theobald (1915) described this species in Egypt under the name of *Rhopulosiphum lactcellum*, which was considered later by Hall (1926) as a synonym to *Myzus persicae*.

**Host plants and geographical distribution in Egypt:** During the present work, this species was collected from 10 medicinal and aromatic plant species from different localities in Egypt. Hall (1926) recorded *M. persicae* on certain host plants; *Eruca sativa* (Cruciferae). *Ammi majus* (unbelliferae); *Carduus dipsacus* (composite); *Petunia hybrida* (Solanaceae); *Lantana camara* (Verbenaceae); *Malva rotundifolia* (malvaceae), *Dolichos lablab* (Leguminosae) *Moricandia* sp. (Cruciferae). Azab *et al.* (1965) recorded this species on Brussels sprouts. Dawood (1971) recorded this species on different ornamental plants. Mazen, Ateyyat *et al.* (2015) studied the activity of *M. persicae* on rosemary, *Mentha pulegium* and lavender.

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## أنواع المن على النباتات الطبية والعطرية في مصر (هيميبترأ : أفيديدى)

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### المستخلص

تم حصر ٩ أنواع من أنواع المنّ تنتمي إلى ٦ أجناس من ٢٦ نبات طبي وعطري ينتمون إلى ١٢ فصيلة نباتية من أماكن مختلفة في مصر خلال الفترة ما بين عامي ٢٠١٣ إلى ٢٠١٥. صمم مفتاح تصنيفي لتمييز الأجناس والأنواع التي تم حصرها، تم تزويد كل نوع بقائمة المرادفات والمراجعة التاريخية والعوائل النباتية والتوزيع الجغرافي في مصر.