

## **First record of the mealy plum aphid *Hyalopterus pruni* (Geoffroy) (Homoptera, Aphidoidea) in Madeira island.**

Azorean Biodiversity Group

### **Referência**

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### **Resumo**

During a scientific expedition to Madeira Island organized by the Department of Biology of the University of the Azores, in September 1997, for studying coccinellids associated with some crops, the second author (A.O. Soares) collected 14 aphid samples, one of them containing the mealy plum aphid, *Hyalopterus pruni* (Geoffroy, 1762), a species until then unknown in the archipelago of Madeira and a potential threat to some *Prunus* crops. The first author (F.A. Ilharco) considers *Hyalopterus amygdale* (Blanchard) a possible synonym of *H. pruni*. In Macaronesia, *H. pruni* is already known in Canary islands (Nafria et al. 1977), and van Harten (1993) reported it from Cape Verde islands. It is a cosmopolitan aphid species, with *Prunus* trees as primary hosts and the gramineous *Arundo donax* L. and *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Steudel (= *P. communis* Trin.) as secondary hosts. In Madeira Island it was collected on *Arundo donax* on 26 September 1997 in Santana, Fajã da Rocha-do-Barco. In continental Portugal, *H. pruni* is a common species, either on primary hosts or *Arundo* and *Phragmites*. A large population was also seen on cultivated bamboo (Ilharco, 1996).