

Eucalyptus psyllids in Brazil

Queiroz, D.L. (1), J. Majer (2) and N. dos Anjos (3)

(1) Embrapa Florestas, Estrada da Ribeira, Km 111, Caixa Postal 319, 83411-000 Colombo-PR, Brazil. dalva@cnpf.embrapa.br (2) Department of Environment and Agriculture, Curtin University of Technology, P. O. Box U 1987, Perth- WA 6845, Australia. j.majer@curtin.edu.au (3) Departamento de Biologia Animal, Universidade Federal de Viçosa, 36.570-000 Viçosa-MG, Brazil. nanjos@ufv.br

Eucalyptus is the most commercially planted tree in Brazil, with over 3.5 million hectares of plantation. The native myrtaceous trees of Brazil host an abundant fauna of phytophages, some of which attack eucalypts too. There is also an increasing number of exotic pests, such as some Australian eucalypt psyllids. Four species of eucalypt psyllids have been introduced in Brazil: *Ctenarytaina spatulata*, *Blastopsylla occidentalis*, *Ctenarytaina eucalypti* and *Glycaspis brimblecombei*. Currently only the latter two are serious pests in several other countries, but in Brazil *C. spatulata* has become problematic. In the first years of *G. brimblecombei* introduction in Brazil, it caused serious damage to eucalypt plantations. Now, this pest is under control due to an integrated pest management program, where a parasitoid is the principal control agent. Chemical control is frequently required to control *G. brimblecombei* on *E. camaldulensis* and on *E. urophylla* x *E. grandis* hybrid-clone plantations. On the other hand, *C. spatulata* is a problem on *E. grandis*, with frequent outbreaks in young plantations. Besides the four species introduced in Brazil, more than 350 species of Psyllidae are known in Australia, and most of them use *Eucalyptus* as hosts. Thus, the Brazilian authorities are worried about the possibility of entry of new species and are starting to invest in more effective security measures. This creates the need to establish and develop project risk management, creating a database that allows for planning of strategies to monitor and control the pests that have been introduced, as well as preventing the entry of others.