Aphids
FACT SHEET

GREEN DROP Tree Care

What They Are:

Aphids (sometimes called plant lice) are a tiny insect that feeds on plant sap. They are Hemiptera, which means they have piercing/sucking mouth parts. They suck sugars out of the phloem sap.



Trees and anything under them becomes sticky and dark spotted in appearance, this is their waste called honeydew.

There are many many species of Aphids that come in all colours, including green, black, red, yellow, and brown.

Unhealthy plants are also susceptible to aphids as they produce higher sugar levels so the best treatment is keeping your plants healthy.

Aphids have many natural predators (ex. Ladybugs, hoverflies, parasitic wasps, and lacewings.)

Life Cycle:

Aphids survive winter as eggs laid on a host plant, hatching in the spring as females. All young born are female, only in fall are male young born in order to mate and produce eggs.

During summer, the females produce nymphs without mating, these nymphs are clones of their mother. Nymphs can molt four times over 7-10 days before becoming reproducing adults.

As temperatures cool down in the late summer-fall, both males and females are produced. The males and females mate and lay eggs for the next spring. The female nymphs that are born in the spring, are already pregnant with the next generation.

All aphids are born with the ability to grow wings. If you see flying aphids you have infestation levels. Wings start to emerge when the population on a plant becomes overcrowded, allowing them to move onto another plant.

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Control/Prevention:

You can first try using a pressure washer to blast the aphids off the tree and leaves, this will likely kill the aphids if they make contact as they are soft-bodied.

Call Green Drop Tree Care for a complimentary assessment, our ISA Certified Aborists will be able to determine which one of our products are right for your trees needs.





Contact:

GREEN DROP Tree Care

Canada's Tree Expert

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