

Sugarcane Sap Feeders

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Field Crops Entomologist



Hemipteran Pests

Sap-feeders



West Indian canefly (WIC)

Saccharosydne saccharivora

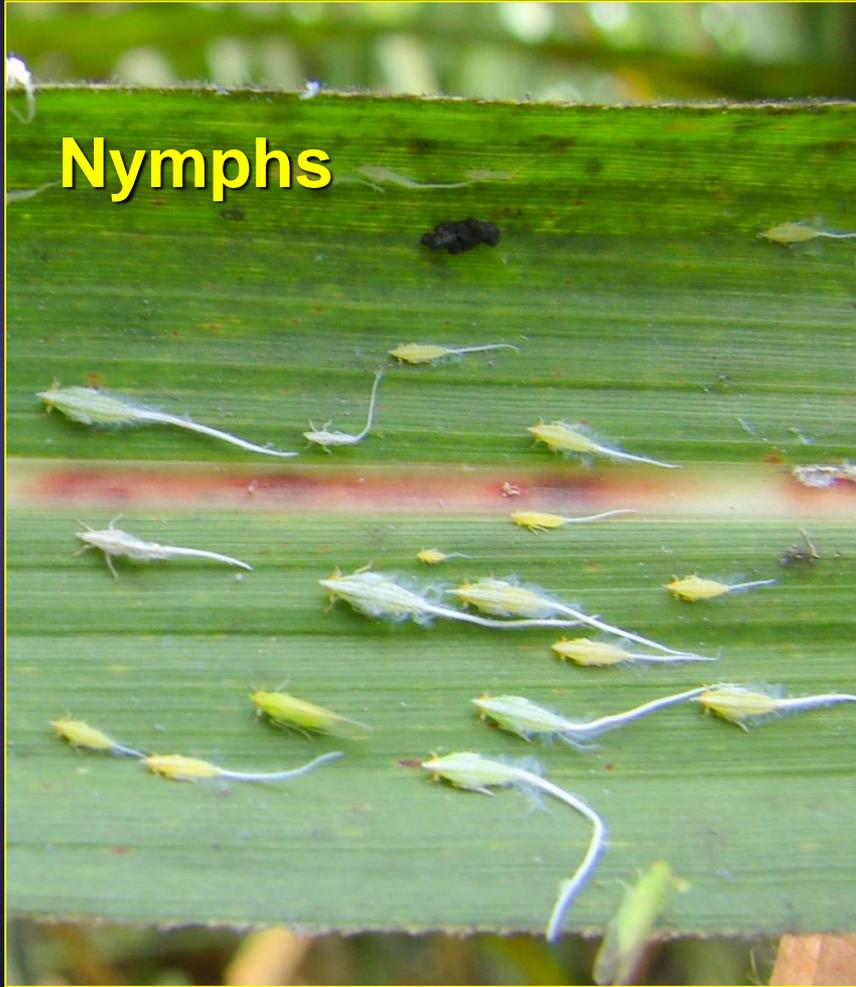


Prefers younger cane

Populations often decline by mid-summer

Thought to be economically damaging in some cases

WIC Life Cycle



West Indian canefly (WIC)

Saccharosydne saccharivora

- **Populations typically rise in May-July, decline in August.**
- **Prefers young cane, move into plant cane in the late summer**
- **Prefers well fertilized cane**
- **Can cause yield losses, but not well understood**
 - **10-30% yield losses observed**
 - **Not consistent**
 - **Depends on infestation level, timing, duration, variety, sooty mold level, etc.**

Conclusions on WIC

- **Products labeled:**

- **Karate (Lambda-cyhalothrin): 1.9 oz/acre**

- **May flare aphids**

- **Besiege (Lambda-cyhalothrin + Chlorantraniliprole): 10 oz/acre**

- **Borers + WICF**

- **When to treat?**

- **Increasing populations**

- **Sooty mold present**

- **>30/leaf**

- **Spraying in July/August will have minimal benefit**

Yellow Sugarcane Aphid (YSA)

Sipha flava



Common in young cane (fall and spring)

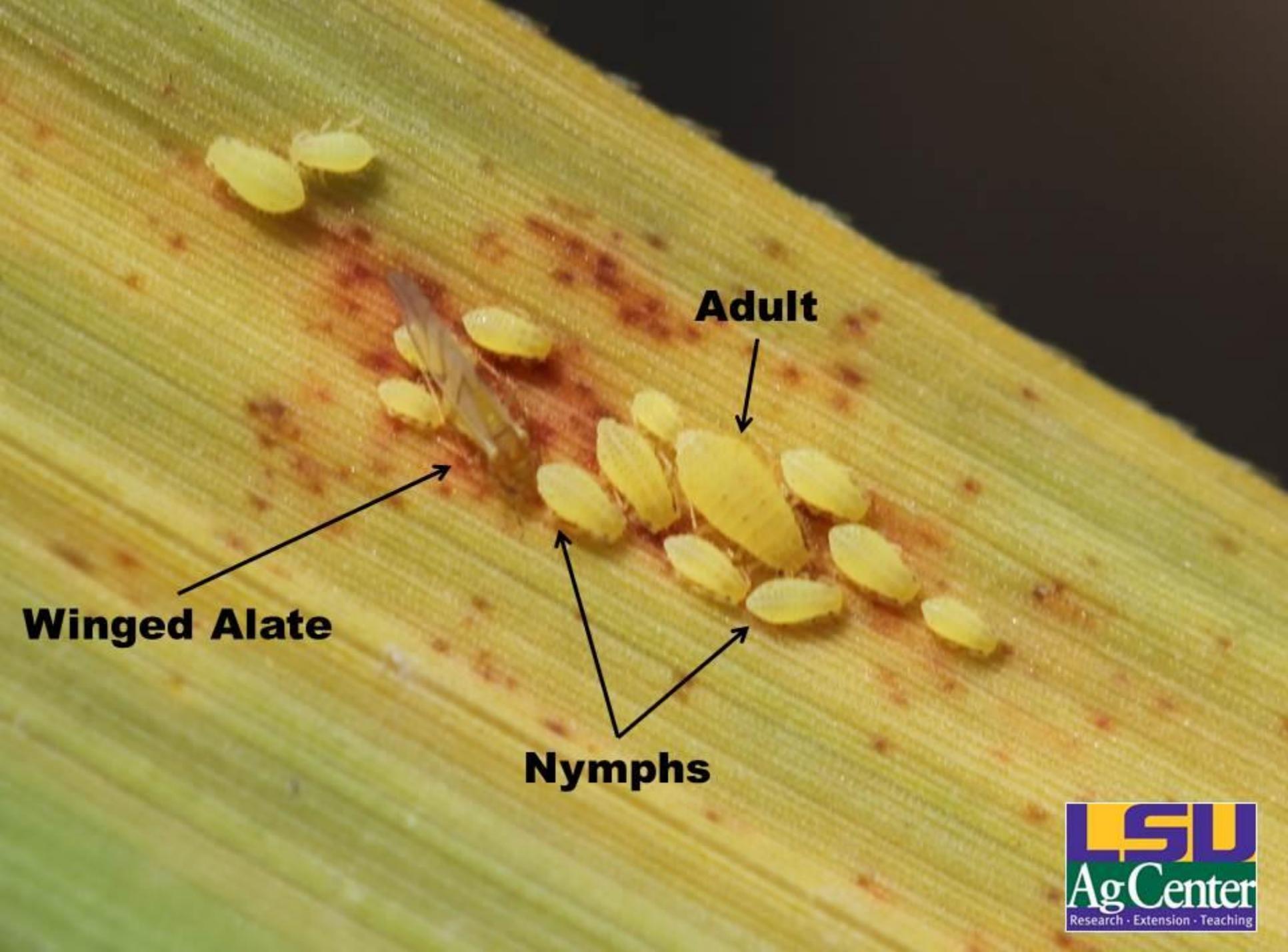
Cause reddening/yellowing of leaves



Yellow Sugarcane Aphid (YSA)

Sipha flava

- **Native to US, distributed all over North and South America**
 - **Invasive pest in Africa**
- **Outbreaks can occur, particularly in dry weather**
- **Caused yield loss in Florida in the 1990s, highly susceptible varieties**
- **Inject toxic saliva → causes yellowing/reddening of leaves**



Winged Alate

Adult

Nymphs

YSA pest status

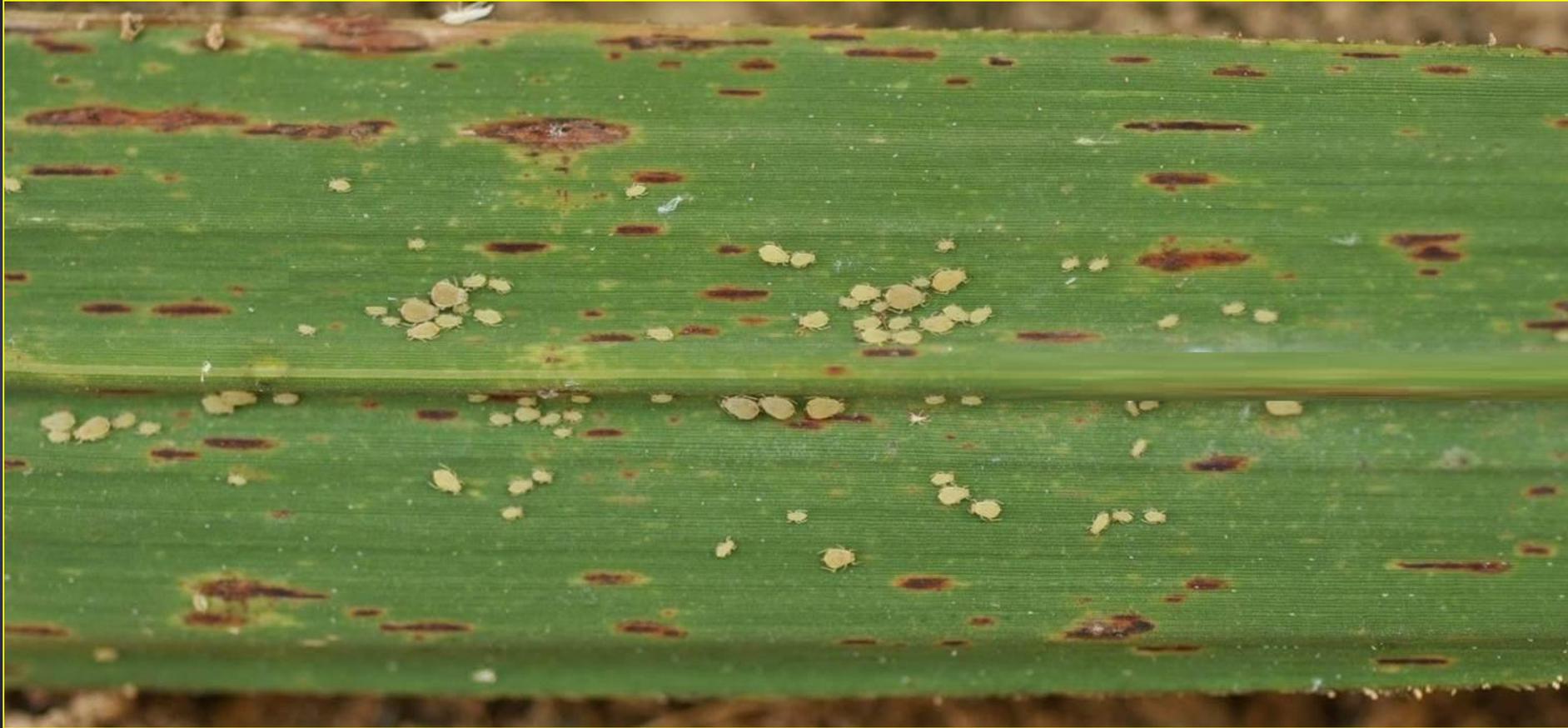
Infestations often decline naturally

Yield loss thought to be minimal in most cases

No controls currently recommended
Pyrethroids not effective

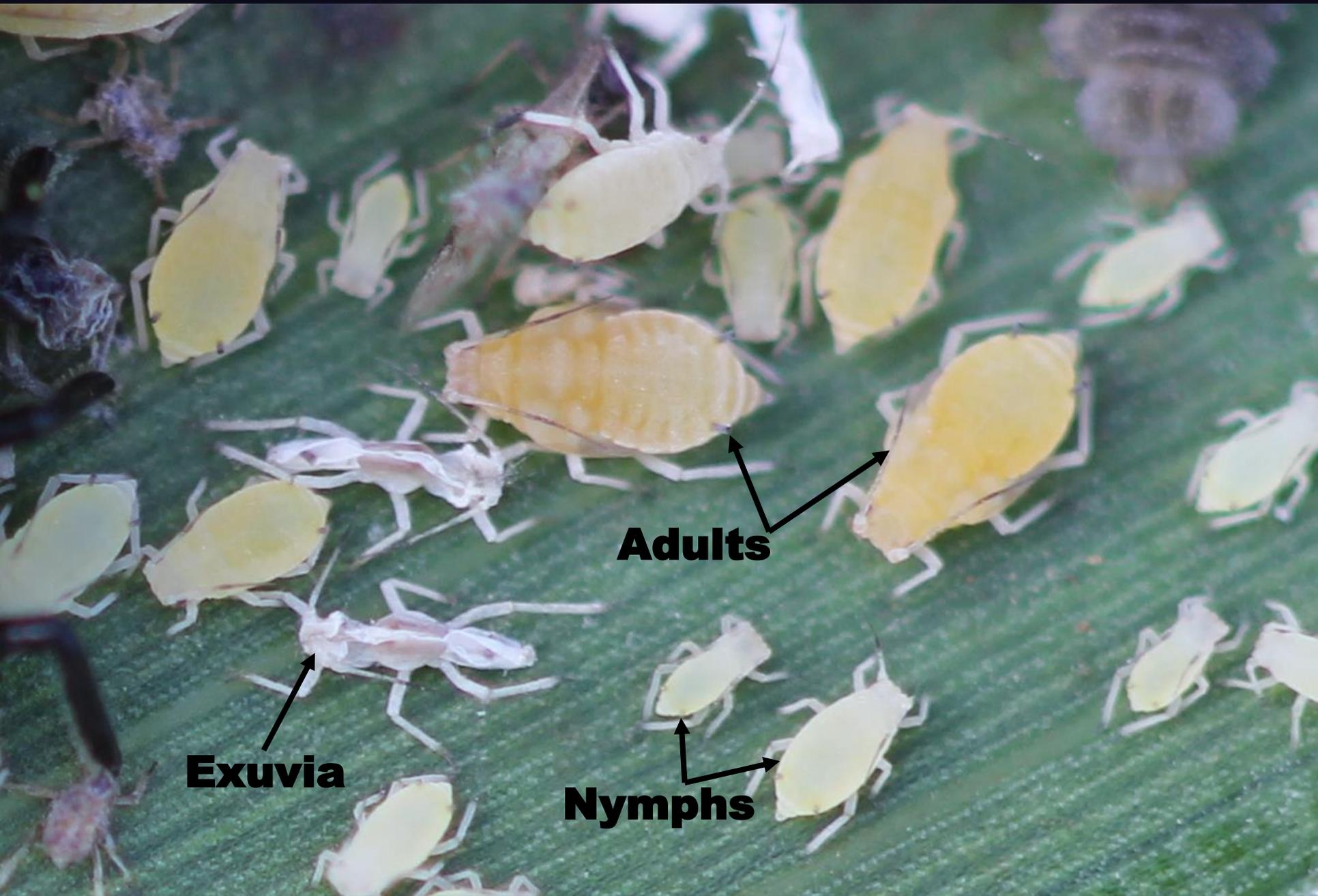
Sugarcane Aphid (SA)

Melanaphis sacchari



Mid- to late-season pest

Can build to high densities



Adults

Exuvia

Nymphs

Sugarcane Aphid (SA)

Melanaphis sacchari

- **Local occurrences of heavy infestations**
 - **Lots of sooty mold**
- **Typically develop in July-August**
- **No documented yield losses, but some impact is likely under heavy infestations**
- **No effective chemical controls, pyrethroids aren't effective**

New Insecticide Registrations

- **As of July 13, 2020, only pyrethroids are labeled for these insects**
 - **Should not be sprayed for aphids**
- **Registration of more effective chemistry is being sought. Crisis exemption possible for 2020.**

**Beneficial lady
beetle larvae
consuming aphids**

