

*Bulletin* of the  
**Oregon  
Entomological  
Society**

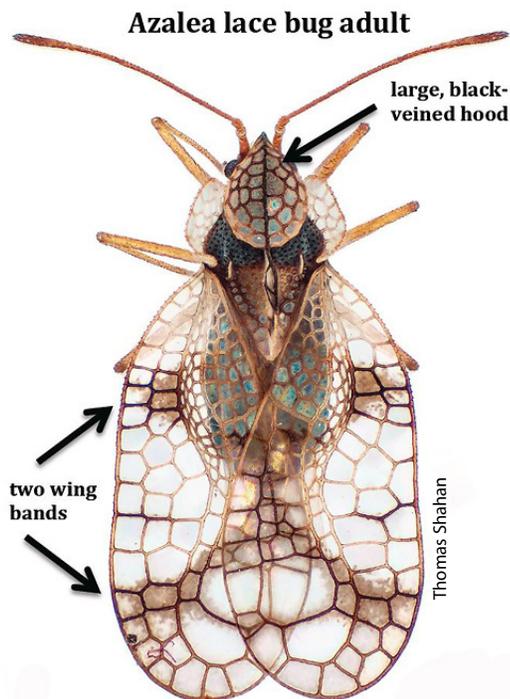
**Azalea Lace Bug in Oregon: a threat to native plants** *Jim LaBonte*

Azalea lace bug, AZLB, *Stephanitis pyriodes*, is an Asian species known from the eastern USA for almost a hundred years. There it has been a sporadic pest of ornamental azaleas and species of rhododendron, especially those in hot and dry situations. The very fine sucking mouthparts penetrate leaf cells and extract chlorophyll and other cell contents.

AZLB is behaving very differently in Oregon, where it was first recognized in 2009, than in the East. It has caused widespread and severe damage to ornamental azaleas and rhododendrons throughout the Willamette Valley, with up to almost total loss of chlorophyll from the entire canopy of infested plants. It is attacking plants never before recorded as hosts, including several species of ornamental *Gaultheria* and *Vaccinium* and even commercial blueberry. Repeated severe damage may diminish the vigor of, or even kill, favored plants.

AZLB also attacks native wild plants in nursery and ornamental settings, such as salal, *Gaultheria shallon*, western azalea, and both species of *Kalmiopsis*. The latter appears particularly favored. Thus, AZLB may also threaten native forests and shrub lands, including the already threatened *Kalmiopsis*. AZLB is not yet known outside of urban settings.

Because of these concerns, the Oregon Department of Agriculture is asking people who frequently travel and work in forests and other natural areas to check potential hosts in the family Ericaceae for the presence of AZLB. All life stages are found on the undersides of leaves of hosts, often concentrated along the midrib. Signs of infestation include pale yellow spotting on the top of leaves and tarry, black fecal spots on the underside, along with the spiny immature stages and the adults. The adult along with other lace bugs that might be found are pictured. The adults of all three species are



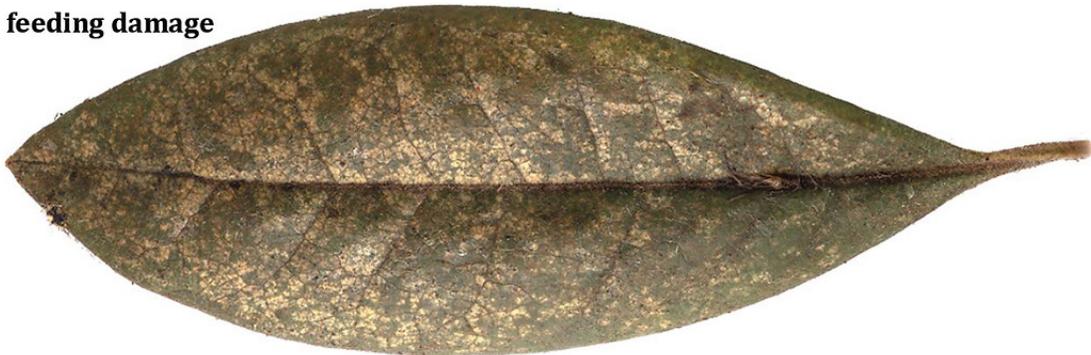
**Immature azalea lace bugs on underside of leaf, near midrib**

small, only about 4 mm. in length. Only the rhododendron lace bug, a native species, is likely to be found on ericaceous hosts.

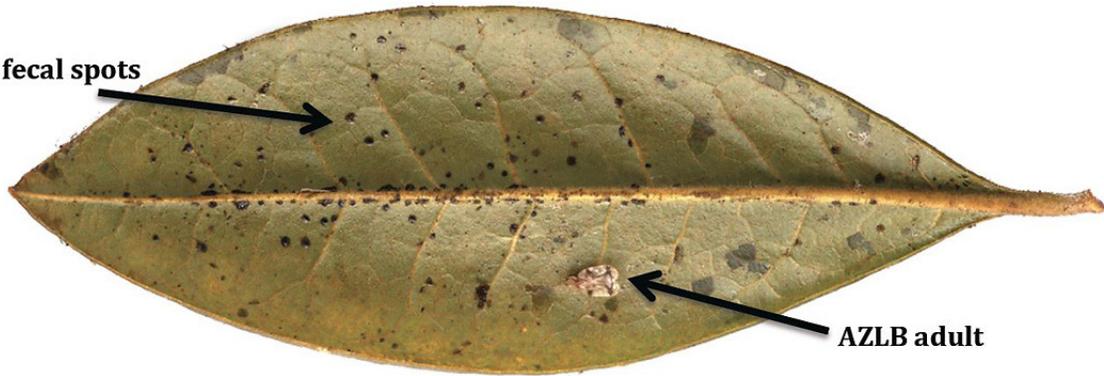
If suspect AZLB are found, please collect specimens with locality and host data and contact James LaBonte at ODA, 503-986-4749 or at <jlabonte@oda.state.or.us>.

### Azalea lace bug damage to *Rhododendron* sp.

feeding damage

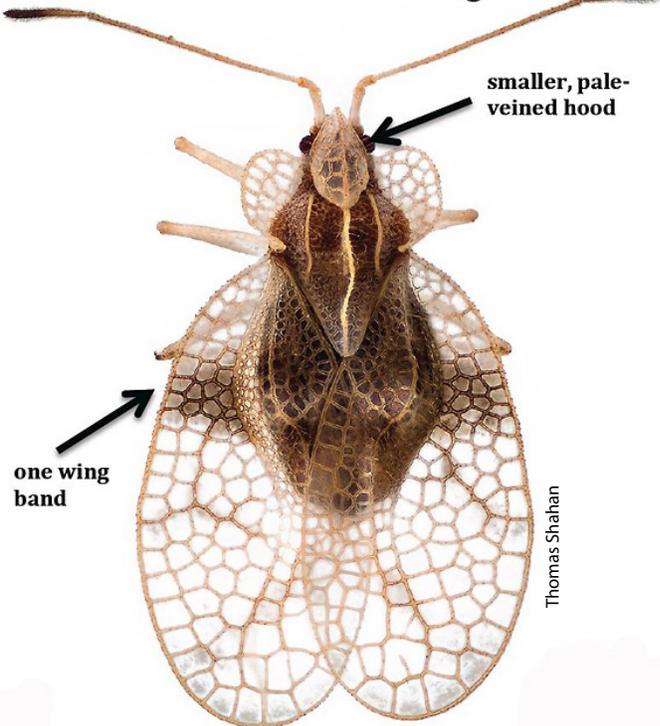


fecal spots



AZLB adult

Rhododendron lace bug adult

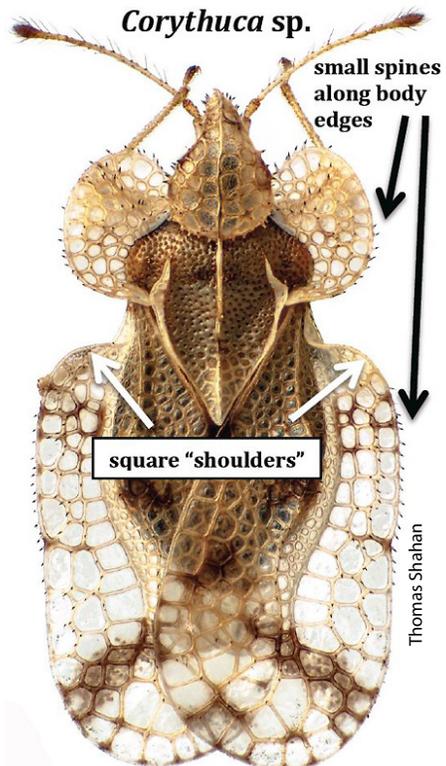


smaller, pale-veined hood

one wing band

Thomas Shahan

*Corythuca* sp.



small spines along body edges

square "shoulders"

Thomas Shahan

## Unusual Oviposition Sites for Snakeflies (Raphidioptera) *Ron Lyons*

Corbet (1999: p. 17) discussed anomalous oviposition sites that had been recorded for various odonate females for whatever reasons. Like odonates, I have found that female snakeflies sometimes have anomalous sites too. Borror, Triplehorn and Johnson (1992: p. 363) indicate that the female snakefly “lays her eggs in clusters in bark, and the larvae are usually found under bark”.

On 8 June 2002, I watched a female snakefly ovipositing through the mesh in a screen on our front window. This location was about 5 feet off the ground. The nice thing about this observation was that I could actually see the clusters of eggs, so I knew she was not just testing the site for suitability. After searching around in the air with her ovipositor each time, the female eventually deposited each egg cluster on the inside of the screen. Some eggs collected at the time hatched on 16 June.

On 7 May 2014 I found a female snakefly vigorously moving her ovipositor up and down in some small holes on the vertical side of a cement block a foot or so off the ground. Based on the amount of time she stayed there and the amount of activity, I assume she actually did lay some eggs. The holes were a bit small to examine however.



Female snakefly ovipositing through window screen 8 June 2002. Two of the creamy-white egg clusters are visible—one is at the end of her ovipositor, the other is attached to the underside of the screen.

Both locations were in the sun on the south side of our house near Bandon, and coincidentally were only about 4–5 feet apart.

### References

- Borror, D.J., C.A. Triplehorn and N.F. Johnson. 1992. *An Introduction to the Study of Insects* (6th edition). Saunders College Publishing (Harcourt Brace College Publishers), Orlando, Florida. 875 pp.
- Corbet, P.S. 1999. *Dragonflies: behavior and ecology of Odonata*. Comstock Publishing Associates (Cornell University Press), Ithaca, New York. 829 pp.



Female snakefly ovipositing in a cement block on 7 May 2014.

### Blog On Oregon Insects

Chris Hedstrom is working as an IPPM Insect Survey Technician this summer with the Oregon Department of Agriculture. He is specifically looking for pentatomids such as the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug. He has a blog at <http://oregonbeatsheet.wordpress.com> highlighting locations and other species he has come across.

### New Field Guides of Interest

Readers will find the following two, newly released, field guides of interest. The paperback price is indicated but both books are available in other formats.

#### **Bumble Bees of North America: An Identification Guide**

Paul H. Williams, Robbin W. Thorp, Leif L. Richardson and Sheila R. Colla

Paperback \$24.95

For information from the publisher please visit <http://press.princeton.edu/titles/10219.html>.

#### **Field Guide to the Spiders of California and the Pacific Coast States** (California Natural History Guide Series)

Richard J. Adams (Author), Timothy D. Manolis (Illustrator)  
Paperback \$26.95

For information from the publisher please see <http://www.ucpress.edu/book.php?isbn=9780520276611>.

## Event Announcements

### North American Butterfly Association (NABA)

Eugene–Springfield Chapter Meeting

For information about the group and its activities visit their website <<http://www.naba.org/chapters/nabaes/>>. The calendar for field trips planned through the end of July is available. This calendar includes a number of trips related to the annual 4th of July Butterfly Counts. Preregistration is requested for field trips.

### National Moth Week: 19–27 July 2014

If you have an interest in moths, you can participate in National Moth Week 19–27 July 2014. For more information or to register please visit their website <<http://nationalmothweek.org/>>.

### Oregon Dragonfly Survey 2014 Aeshna Blitz

This year's annual gathering of those who are insane for Oregon's Odonata is scheduled for the weekend of 22 August at Cottonwood Meadows Lake campground (not Cottonwood Reservoir) northwest of Lakeview off Hwy 140. We'll also look at any other lakes and streams in the area and plan to get over to the Chewaucan River. All are welcome.

Contact Jim Johnson at <[jt\\_johnson@comcast.net](mailto:jt_johnson@comcast.net)> or Steve Valley <[svalley2@comcast.net](mailto:svalley2@comcast.net)> if you plan to attend.

### Booklet on Bees and Pesticides Revised

Originally published in 2006, the booklet *How to Reduce Bee Poisonings From Pesticides* has recently been revised and updated by L. Hooven, R. Sagili and E. Johansen. The revised 35 page booklet, Pacific Northwest Extension Publication PNW 591, published by Oregon State University, the University of Idaho and Washington State University can be downloaded as a PDF file from <<http://ir.library.oregonstate.edu/xmlui/bitstream/handle/1957/42829/PNW%20591.pdf>>. (Some background on this publication can be found at <<http://j.mp/osubeeinfo>>. The publication can also be downloaded from this page.)

Among other things, there is an extensive table indicating the effects on bees of the active ingredients in various pesticides together with the names of the commonly used pesticides in which these ingredients are found. For convenience, another table lists the commonly used pesticides alphabetically and indicates their active ingredients.

The booklet will be of particular interest to bee owners and pesticide applicators, including members of the general public, as well as those looking into the causes of bee deaths.

### 36th Northwest Lepidopterists' Workshop

This year's Northwest Lepidopterists' Workshop will take place at Oregon State University on the weekend of 18–19 October 2014.

The groups of emphasis will be:

Butterflies: Acmonoid Blues and Hairstreaks

Moths: general moths, Pyralidae



The latest information available can be found at <<http://osac.science.oregonstate.edu/2014PNWLEPWorkshop>>. The full schedule will be included in the Fall Bulletin.

### Entomological Society of America (ESA)

Entomology 2014—Grand Challenges Beyond Our Horizons

The next annual meeting of the ESA will be held in Oregon Convention Center, Portland, Oregon on 16–19 November 2014.

Visit the ESA's website, <<http://www.entsoc.org/entomology2014>>, for details as they become available.

### Invertebrate Classes at Siskiyou Field Institute

The Siskiyou Field Institute located in Selma, Oregon offers field courses in the natural sciences. This summer's invertebrate classes are "Introduction to" and "Intermediate Dragonflies of the State of Jefferson" 19–20 July, "Botany and Butterflies on Mt. Eddy Backpacking Trip" 26–27 July, and "Solitary Wasps and Bees" 1–2 August.

For more information on these courses and other offerings please visit <<http://www.thesfi.org/>>.

### Malheur Field Station Classes

For information about the Field Station near the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge visit <<http://www.malheurfieldstation.com/>>. Click on the Programs tab to access the MFS Workshops Flyer 2014 PDF (fixed-date workshops). The class *Butterflies of Malheur & Beyond!* is being offered on two dates, 3–5 July and 1–3 August.