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DOWNY PSYLLID OF ALDER, PSYLLA FLOCCOSA, NEW SPECIES.*

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The Psyllid under consideration has been conspicuous upon the alder (Alnus incana, Willd.) each season during my acquaintance with the vicinity of Orono, Maine. As the host-plant is looked upon as a common nuisance, no attention has been paid to this insect from an economic standpoint, and no further thought was given it except to admire the plumy appearance of the alder tips during June, or to be annoyed because it was impossible to go through this growth without being covered by the somewhat sticky flocculent matter.

This Psyllid was found to be convenient to use in connection with a study in wing venation,† but it was not until that paper was about ready for press that I tried to determine the species, and found that it was undescribed, for America at least. The Psyllid was named in that paper, and the description held until the present season should give opportunities for a few colour and life-history notes.

If the fact that I am not a "Psyllidist" is revealed by the generic characters creeping into the description, the accompanying photographs will perhaps help out the deficiency.

The eggs are probably deposited upon the alder in the fall, as the newly hatched Psyllids appear about the time the alder leaves are unfolding in the spring, and settle upon the ventral surface of the leaves.

On June 10, 1909, nymphs previous to the last (or pupal) instar were examined. Head and thorax, both dorsal and ventral, were pale green, the abdomen, both dorsal and ventral, was pale yellow. Eyes bright pinkish-red. Tips of antennæ, legs and beak dusky. Wing-pads small and full and not flat upon the dorsum as in the next stage. These nymphs were congregated on young leaves on the ventral side along the ribs. To the naked eye they presented a loose, woolly mass on account

^{*}Papers from the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station: Entomology, 36. †Homologies of the Wing-veins of Aphididæ, Psyllidæ, Aleurodidæ and Coccidæ.