

This short description was prepared in the framework of the EU FP7 project DROPSA - Strategies to develop effective, innovative and practical approaches to protect major European fruit crops from pests and pathogens (grant agreement no. 613678). This pest was listed in the DROPSA alert list for orange and mandarin fruit.

**Resseliella citrifugis (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae)**

**Location of life stages on plant parts:** eggs on stem and calyx area of the fruit or inside the mesocarp/albedo; larvae burrow into the fruit, tunneling in the white tissue. Last instar larvae overwinter in fruit or in soil; there may be many larvae in one fruit (USDA, 2014).

**Fruit pathway:** Several Chinese authors state that it may spread through the transport of mature fruit, which according to USDA (2014) indicates that infested fruit can escape post-harvest culling.

**Other pathways:** plants for planting with fruit or soil, soil on its own.

**Hosts:** *Citrus*, incl. *Citrus maxima*, *Citrus paradisi* (USDA, 2014), grapefruit and orange (there is an uncertainty because this was a rough translation from a Chinese article where the scientific name is not indicated; Huang et al., 2001).

**Distribution:** Asia: China (Fujian, Hubei, Hunan, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Sichuan - USDA, 2014 citing others). Has spread within China (Huang et al., 2001 - with an uncertainty, as from Chinese).

**Damage:** In China, *R. citrifugis* is an important pest of grapefruit and pummelo and is subject to control programmes. It causes serious fruit drop and can affect product yield and storage quality, with serious economic losses. Yield losses of 10-40 % or more reported. Fruit infestations of 10-70% have been reported in citrus orchards. The most damaging period is before the fruit harvest period, but the pest can also cause damage afterwards or overwinter in the fruit. (USDA, 2014 citing other).

**Other information:** USDA (2014) note that Gagné (2010) lists *R. citrifugis* Jiang as a nomina nudum (i.e. the scientific name is not yet agreed as it was not associated with a full description). However, the pest was analysed because it is used in multiple sources on Citrus in China.

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| <b>Recorded impact:</b> High | <b>Intercepted:</b> Not known | <b>Spreading/invasive:</b> Yes<br>(uncertain) |
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**References:**

- USDA. 2014. Importation of Citrus spp. from China into the continental United States. A Qualitative, Pathway-Initiated Pest Risk Assessment. February 7, 2014.
- Huang J, Zhou S, Zhou Z, Zhou S, Cheng J, Deng P. 2001. Morphology and Bionomics of *Resseliella citrifugis* Jian [in Chinese with abstract in English]. Journal of Hunan Agricultural University (Natural Sciences). Vol. 27, No. 6, p 445-448.