

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 *Vitis* fruit.

*Retithrips syriacus* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae)

**Fruit pathway:** *R. syriacus* cause serious berry scraping (AGDA 2015); nymphs and adults feed on plant sap and fruit skin (CABI CPC). These thrips may easily remain in the complex structure of table grape bunches after harvest.

**Other pathways:** plants for planting; eggs on leaves, nymphs and adults feed on leaves (CABI CPC)

**Hosts:** polyphagous, hosts include *Vitis*, *Malus* spp., *Cocos*, *Diospyros kaki*, *Musa*, *Prunus*, *Pyrus*, *Rosa*, *Coffea*, *Persea americana*, *Populus* (CABI CPC)

**Distribution:** North America: USA; Africa: Malawi, Tanzania, Tunisia (CABI CPC), additionally Egypt, Lybia, Sudan, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Uganda, Somalia, South Africa (Elimem *et al.* 2011); Asia: Iraq, India, Israel (CABI CPC), Sri Lanka (Oda *et al.* 1997), Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Turkey, United Arab Emirates (Elinem *et al.* 2011); South America: Brazil (Monteiro 2002); Carribean: Puerto Rico (Medina-Gaud and Franqui 2001). Introduced to at least Guadeloupe (Etienne 2015), Florida, Puerto Rico (Hamon and Edwards 1994) and Tunisia (Elimem *et al.* 2011).

**Damage:** Devastating grapevine pest in Andhra Pradesh, India. Affecting yield and quality (Reddy 2006). This species affects its host by defoliating and shrivelling the leaves, scarring fruit and contaminate fruit with excreta (AGDA 2015). *R. syriacus* causes considerable economic damage in grapevine and a few other crops in Israel; principally a grapevine pest, but also severe losses in cotton recorded in South India, Malawi and Tanzania when conditions are hot and dry. There were serious infestations of *Ricinus* in the Near East recorded (CABI CPC). *R. syriacus* is an important pest in viticulture in Brazil (Moreira *et al.* 2012); already numerous hosts recorded in Florida (Hamon and Edwards 1994).

**Other information:** Intercepted on cuttings of *Jatropha* in Puerto Rico (Hamon and Edwards 1994).

<b>Impact:</b> High	<b>Intercepted:</b> Yes	<b>Spreading/invasive:</b> Yes
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