







USING MOLECULAR SYSTEMATICS TO INVESTIGATE PATTERNS OF DIVERSITY AND SPECIATION IN PSYLLIDS

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Molecular systematics has improved our understanding of evolutionary patterns in many organisms, but some groups have lagged behind others for one reason or another. Psyllids (Hemiptera, Psylloidea) are increasingly, if not a model system, a group with a steadily growing amount of molecular systematics research. I will review and summarize the current contribution of molecular data to our understanding of psyllid diversity.



PSYLLID PESTS AND TAXONOMY

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Among psyllids (Hemiptera, Psylloidea), there are only relatively few major pest species in agriculture and forestry but these all belong to taxonomically "difficult" groups. Using a few examples, I will show where currently the greatest challenges lie and that there is a continuing need for taxonomic expertise.

