

HONEYLOCUST POD GALL MIDGE—*Dasineura gleditschiae*

HOST: Honeylocust

IDENTIFICATION, LIFE CYCLE, AND DAMAGE: Mature larvae are white or yellow and 6 mm long. Adult midges (flies) are 3 mm long. Males are generally black, and females are black with red abdomens.

In early spring adult midges emerge and lay tiny yellow eggs in young leaflets. One to two days later, larvae emerge and begin feeding on inner surfaces. Injured leaflets stop developing and form small hollow balls or pods around the larvae. Larvae feed within the galls for 2 to 3 weeks before pupating. There are four to seven generations per year. Larvae of the last fall generation leave galls and overwinter in the ground.

Pod-like leaflets eventually dry up, turn brown, and may drop prematurely. Twigs and small branches may be killed by repeated attacks. Trees are not killed but lose some of their ornamental value.

CONTROL: Spray growing tips and new foliage with carbaryl or trichlorfon as soon as they begin to develop in the spring. Repeat every 10 to 14 days especially during spring and early summer when the first two generations are developing.



Galls of honeylocust pod gall midge