

# Summary

To further characterize the grass-feeding spittlebug complex on the Caribbean Coast of Colombia, the biology and habits of *Aeneolamia reducta* (Lallemand) and *A. lepidior* (Fowler) were described. The duration of egg, nymph, and adult life stages were studied under controlled conditions, as well as certain components of reproductive biology such as oviposition site preferences, and observations on egg diapause. Confirmed hosts of *A. reducta* included *Bothriochloa pertusa* (colosuana), *Brachiaria ruziziensis*, *Dichanthium aristatum* (angleton), and *Panicum fasciculatum* (granadilla) while *A. lepidior* hosts were *Brachiaria* sp., *Panicum maximum*, and *Paspalum conjugatum*. The life cycle of *A. reducta* on *B. pertusa* was 45.2 days divided in 15.8, 26.1, and 6.6 days for eggs, nymphs, and adults, respectively. Egg diapause was confirmed, lasting up to 206 days and withstanding at least 50 days of drought. Oviposition sites were largely in the soil (90%) but occasionally on leaf litter (8.2%) or on the plant stem (1.4%). The life cycle of *A. lepidior* on

*P. maximum* was 52.7-56.3 days, divided in 14.1-17.7, 35.4, and 6.3 for the egg nymph and adult.

Development was detained in some eggs, delaying eclosion up to 75 days, but there was no clear time demarcation between nondiapausing and diapausing eggs. Oviposition sites were largely in the soil (79.7%) but occasionally on leaf litter (5.7%) or on the plant stem (14.6%). These results not only strengthen our understanding of the patterns of variation in the biology and behavior of grass-feeding spittlebugs, but provide basic information useful for advancing pest management on the Caribbean Coast of Colombia.