

The red gum lerp psyllid (RGLP) (*Glycaspis brimblecombei*) is a foliar pest on red gum eucalyptus trees (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*). Like the Eucalyptus trees the RGLP is native to Australia. RGLP is a plant-juice sucking homopteran in the family *Psyllidae*. The nymphs form a protective covering of crystallized honeydew called a lerp. This protective covering over the nymph protects the insects from both predators and insecticidal foliar sprays. Excess honey dew results in the growth of sooty mold. The RGLP is responsible for extensive defoliation of Red Gum Eucalyptus trees. Heavy infestations result in reduced tree health, decline and ultimately, tree loss.



PHOTOS:

A: A eucalyptus leaf infested with RGLP.

B: An adult [RGLP](#).

C: A nymph RGLP.

D: [Lerps](#) on a eucalyptus leaf.

Photos taken by: U William Ciesla, D.W. French, B.F. Billings, and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

WHAT TO DO:

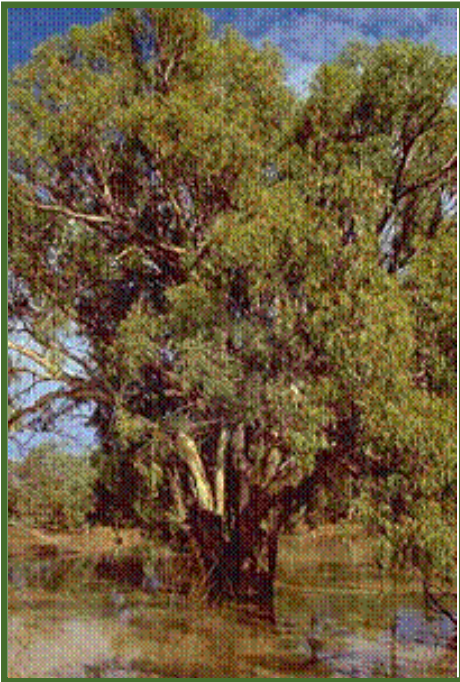
Arborjet recommends a trunk Micro-infusion[™] using the insecticide [IMA-jet](#) (imidacloprid) with the [Tree I.V system](#) with the [VIPER method](#). Imidacloprid is a *nicotinoid*, which means that its chemical structure is similar to nicotine in tobacco. This chemical disrupts the central nervous system in insects, and has shown residual activity for up to 2 years. Click [here](#) to determine dosage rates for your trees. Select the [Tree I.V. system](#) with the [VIPER method](#) or [STINGER Method](#). Other injection devices to select for this application include the [Hydraulic](#), the [Hand-operated](#) and the [ProCaps](#). These systems enable the arborist or tree custodian to rapidly inject a precise dose of medicament directly into the xylem tissue, assuring a fast plant response. [IMA-jet](#) is not currently registered for use in California.

WHEN TO DO IT:

Generally, the best seasons for Micro-infusion[™] are fall and spring. Uptake occurs when trees are transpiring. The environmental conditions that favor uptake are moderate temperatures, adequate soil moisture, and high humidity. Soil temperature should be above 40 degrees for micro-infusion[™]. Tree health will influence uptake time. Generally, hot weather or dry soil conditions will result in a reduced rate of uptake. If treating trees in the summer, micro-infuse in the morning for the quickest uptake. A dying tree is a poor candidate for treatment. It is the responsibility of the arborist or tree custodian to assess tree health and its potential for recovery before undertaking treatment.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN:

Tree recovery will be proportional to the severity of the RGLP infestation at the time of injection. (Click [here](#) to view Arborjet's RGLP Severity Scale). The severity scale was developed as a tool to assess levels of infestation to indicate tree health improvement after treatment. Provided that the tree was treated in time, IMA-jet will kill the insects and the tree will re-foliate. New leaves produced after treatment with IMA-jet will show fewer signs of infestation and overall tree health will improve. Click [here](#) to view research paper on IMA-jet's efficacy against RGLP.



PHOTOS:

Left: [A Healthy Red Gum Eucalyptus](#) (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*)

Right: Healthy Leaves from [Red Gum Eucalyptus](#)