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USING e-ANNOTATION TOOLS FOR ELECTRONIC PROOF CORRECTION





13 RESEARCH PAPER

Contribution of gall microscopic structure to taxonomy of gallicolous aphids on *Pistacia*

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Keywords

Dendrogram; Fordini; galls; microscopy study; *Pistacia*.

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ABSTRACT

Aphids inducing galls on *Pistacia* plants belong to the tribe Fordini. According to the classification of Heie & Wegierek (2009), the genera are grouped into three subtribes. Previous microscopic studies showed that this taxonomy is not consistent with the histological characteristics of the galls. In this paper, galls induced by *Aploneura lentisci, Asiphonella cynodonti, Forda riccobonii, Slavum wertheimae* and *Smynthurodes betae* were analysed for the first time, together with nine other galls previously described, and new groupings were determined based on histological features. The main results indicated three groups of galls: the first group comprised closed galls induced by *Baizongia pistaciae, Geoica utricularia, Rectinasus buxtoni* and *Slavum wertheimae*; the second group included two species of *Geopemphigus (G. blackmani* and *G. torsus*); and the third group was divided into two subgroups, the first comprised *Aploneura lentisci, Asiphonella cynodonti* and *Geopemphigus morral*, and the other included all the remaining species (*Forda formicaria, F. marginata, F. riccobonii, Paracletus cimiciformis* and *Smynthurodes betae*). The taxonomic value of these results is discussed.

INTRODUCTION

Species of aphids that typically induce galls in plants of the genus Pistacia (Anacardiaceae) belong to 13 genera. These are included in the extended classification of Remaudière, Strovan & Quednau (Nieto Nafría & Favret 2011) - together with the five genera that induce galls in the genus Rhus (Anacardiaceae) - in the tribe Fordini (Aphididae, Eriosomatinae). In their classification, the Pistacia-galling genera are placed in the subtribe Fordina and the Rhus-galling genera in the subtribe Melaphidina. However, in the alternative classification proposed by Heie & Wegierek (2009), these two groups are raised to the level of tribes, the former becoming tribe Fordini and the latter becoming tribe Melaphidini. In the Heie & Wiegorek classification, the Pistacia-galling genera are distributed among three subtribes (Heie & Wegierek 2009): Fordina Acloque 1897, Baizongiina Börner 1944 (1914) and Geoicina Mordvilko 1921. Forda von Heyden 1837, Paracletus von Heyden 1837, Rectinasus Theobald 1914, Smynthurodes Westwood 1849 and Tramaforda Manheim 2007 are allocated to Fordina. Aloephagus Essig 1950, Aploneura Passerini 1863, Asiphonella Theobald 1923, Baizongia Rondani 1848, Geopemphigus Hille Ris Lambers 1933 and Slavum Mordvilko 1927 are allocated to Baizongiina, and Geoica Hart 1894 and Chaetogeoica Remaudiere and Tao 1957 to Geoicina (see Table 3).

A number of studies have suggested that the identified groups of genera should be revised. Some authors base their argument on the increasingly frequent molecular analyses (e.g. Inbar 2006; Zhang & Qiao 2007; Ortiz-Rivas et al. 2009; Ortiz-Rivas & Martínez-Torres 2010; Yang et al. 2010), while others stress the importance of morphological studies of the stage of the life cycle that occurs on the roots of herbaceous plants (Blackman & Eastop 2007; Williams & Dixon 2007). Moreover, two recent studies examined aphid-induced galls microscopically: one described three species of the genus Geophemphigus (Muñoz-Viveros et al. 2014), while the other examined galls induced by Rectinasus buxtoni (Álvarez et al. 2014). In both studies, it was proposed that these species should be placed in subtribes other than those indicated in the aforementioned classification of Heie & Wegierek (2009). Specifically, it was proposed that the genus Rectinasus should not be grouped together with the genera Forda and Paracletus in the subtribe Fordina. It was also proposed that the genus Geopemphigus should not accompany the genus Baizongia in the subtribe Baizongiina. In these studies it is assumed that the galls are extended phenotypes of the aphid species that induce them (Stern 1995; Stone & Schönrogge 2003); the morphological characteristics, including the microscopic characteristics, of the galls can be used as tools in the various classifications or groupings of the gallicolous aphids and even in phylogenetic

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studies (Inbar 2006; Sano & Akimoto 2011; Chen & Qiao 2012; Álvarez *et al.* 2013).

The main aim of this study was to describe the microscopic features of galls induced by five species of aphid that have not been analysed to date, and to present a new classification for the gallicolous aphids based on histological features, using the results from this study together with known, published anatomical data on nine other final galls (Inbar 2006) induced by aphids (Álvarez *et al.* 2009, 2014; Álvarez 2011, 2012; Muñoz-Viveros *et al.* 2014).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Mature galls induced by the following five aphid species were studied microscopically (Table 1): Aploneura lentisci (AL) on Pistacia lentiscus, Asiphonella cynodonti (AC) on P. palaestina and Forda riccobonii (FR), Smynthurodes betae (SB) and Slavum wertheimae (SW) on P. atlantica (Fig. 1). For the joint study of the 14 galls, the abovementioned gallicolous aphids were considered together with other gallicolous aphids from previously published studies (Table 1): Paracletus cimiciformis (PC), Forda marginata (FM) and F. formicaria (FF) (Álvarez et al. 2009)

and Geoica utricularia (GU) and Baizongia pistaciae (BP) (Álvarez 2011; Álvarez et al. 2012), all on P. terebinthus; R. bux- **5** toni (RB) (Álvarez et al. 2014) on P. palaestina; and Geopemphigus blackmani (GB), G. morral (GM) and G. torsus (GT) (Muñoz-Viveros et al. 2014) on P. mexicana.

All galls were fixed in FAA (formaldehyde, acetic acid and ethyl alcohol) and subsequently stored in 70% ethyl alcohol. They were studied with both optical and electron microscopy. For bright-field microscopy, polarised light microscopy and epifluorescence microscopy, galls were embedded in paraffin and sectioned with a microtome, to produce 12-µm thick transverse sections of the leaflet midrib region containing the gall. The following features of the sections were studied (see Fig. 1): the closure zone of the galls and the wall interior, the epidermis-air (outer epidermis), the wall itself ('gall body (excluding the vascular bundles)' in the Results) and the vascular bundles, and the epidermis-lumen (inner epidermis). For galls induced by GU, BP, RB and SW, only histological sections of the wall of the gall were made. Some sections were stained with Safranin-Fast Green and were mounted permanently on microscope slides. Other sections were deparaffinised and mounted directly without staining for epifluorescence studies. Scanning

Table 1. Species analysed in the present study

Species	Pistacia	Location	Month	Subtribe	Published
Aplonerura lentiscii	P. lentiscus	Barcelona, Spain	June	Baizongiina	Present study
Asiphonella cynodonti	P. palaestina	Malkya, Israel	June	Baizongiina	Present study
Forda riccobonii	P. atlantica	Malkya, Israel	June	Fordina	Present study
Smynthurodes betae	P. atlantica	Malkya, Israel	June	Fordina	Present study
Slavun wertheimae	P. atlantica	Malkya, Israel	June	Baizongiina	Present study
Paracletus cimiciformis	P. terebinthus	León, Spain	July	Fordina	Álvarez <i>et al.</i> (2009)
Forda marginata	P. terebinthus	León, Spain	July	Fordina	Álvarez <i>et al.</i> (2009)
Forda formicaria	P. terebinthus	León, Spain	July	Fordina	Álvarez <i>et al.</i> (2009)
Geoica utricularia	P. terebinthus	León, Spain	August	Geoicina	Álvarez (2012)
Baizongia pistaciae	P. terebinthus	León, Spain	August	Baizongiina	Álvarez (2012)
Rectinasus buxtoni	P. palaestina	Baram, Israel	August	Fordina	Álvarez <i>et al.</i> (2014)
Geopemphigus morral	P. mexicana	Hidalgo, Mexico	July	Baizongiina	Muñoz-Viveros et al. (2014)
Geopemphigus torsus	P. mexicana	Hidalgo, Mexico	July	Baizongiina	Muñoz-Viveros et al. (2014)
Geopemphigus blackmani	P. mexicana	Hidalgo, Mexico	July	Baizongiina	Muñoz-Viveros et al. (2014)

The names of the gall species studied, the tree on which the gall is induced, the sampling location, the sampling month, the subtribe to which the species belong according to the classification of Heie & Wegierek (2009) and the origin of the analysed data are presented.



Fig. 1. General appearance of the galls examined in the **10** present study. (a): *A. lentisci*. (b): *A. cynodonti*. (c): *F. ric-cobonii*. (d): *S. betae*. (e): *S. wertheimae*. (a–e): Safranin-Fast Green. (a–e): Bright-field microscope. CZ = closure zone, L = lumen of the gall, LA = lamina of unmodified leaflet, MI = midvein of the leaflet, W = wall of the gall.

electron microscopy was performed on both the inner and outer surfaces of the galls. Gall fragments were dehydrated in an ascending ethanol series and directly coated with gold.

All data obtained after microscopic examination were subjected to a hierarchical cluster analysis using Ward's agglomerative clustering algorithm and squared Euclidean distances (Hair *et al.* 1999). IBM SPSS Statistics 21 software (Chicago, IL, USA) was used. First, the 14 species were analysed using the 27 variables they hold in common. Subsequently, the 39 variables common to eight of the 14 species were analysed. To conduct these analyses, data regarding presence/intermediate/ absence in eight of the 14 species (see Table 2) were transformed into the numerical values 1/0.5/0, respectively. A second study was conducted combining the 'intermediate' values with 'presence', and a third study combined the 'intermediate' values with 'absence'. All results were essentially similar, and data from the second study ('presence/absence') are presented.

RESULTS

The microscopic characteristics of *AL*, *AC*, *FR*, *SB* and *SW* are shown in Figs 1–3. A summary of the results for all 14 galls is shown in Table 2.

General characteristics

Regarding the presence of an unmodified leaflet accompanying the gall (Fig. 1), two states are observed: (1) the gall originates from the modification of part of a leaflet, thus it is observed as being accompanied by part of an unmodified leaflet (Fig. 1a-d); (2) no unmodified parts of a leaflet are observed to be associated with the gall. In this case it is assumed that galls are caused by modification of a bud (of a leaflet, leaf or branch; Fig. 1e). Galls without presence of an unmodified leaflet were found in SW, BP, GT and GB; the other species all presented galls with presence of part of an unmodified leaflet. Most of the galls studied can be considered as folds of the leaflet lamina. This is not the case for galls induced by SW, GU, BP, RB, GT or GB, where the gall is voluminous and has an approximately spherical shape. When making transverse sections at the midvein of the leaflet containing the gall, the following types of galls are observed: (1) galls with the chamber at about the same level as the midvein of the leaflet: (1a) SB and FM induce more or less circular galls (Fig. 1d); and (1b) PC induces flattened galls; (2) FR and FF induce neither circular nor flat galls (they can be considered ovoid) and the gall chamber is below the midvein of the leaflet (Fig. 1c); (3) AL, AC and GM induce longitudinal galls parallel to the midvein of the leaflet (Fig. 1a,b). In all cases, the outer epidermis of the galls (called epidermis-air in this paper) derives from the abaxial epidermis of the leaflet and the epidermis that lines the gall chamber (called epidermis-lumen) derives from the adaxial epidermis of the leaflet. The midvein of the leaflet is involved in the galls in most cases. It is not involved in the galls of FR, PC, FM and FF. Galls induced in SB often 'lean' on the midvein in the area near the petiole, and the midvein is not involved when the gall extends towards the apex of the leaflet. Tannins are widespread and are usually located throughout the entire wall. In most galls crystals are observed. They are for the most part druses preferentially located in the upper part of the wall (Fig. 3k). Prisms are observed in AC and microcrystals are observed in AL (Fig. 2b).

Epidermis-air

In all cases, the epidermis-air is uniseriate, comprising a cuticle and stomata (Figs 2a,e,f and 3a,d,g,h). It presents microcrystals in *PC*. Trichomes are observed in *AC*, *SB*, *GM*, *GT* and *GB* (Fig. 2e). They may be multicellular and glandular, or unicellular and elongated with a circular cross-section. In addition, characteristic trichomes are observed in *SB*: they are unicellular, flat and their surface is covered with papillae (Fig. 3i,j).

Gall body (excluding the vascular bundles)

In all cases, the walls of the galls consist of storage parenchyma cells (Figs 2a,f,g and 3a,b,g,i,l). In some cases the parenchyma of the upper part of the wall is distinct from the parenchyma of the lower part of the wall (Fig. 2a). The difference between the upper and lower parts is, among others, determined by the arrangement and size of the cells, and by the presence of tannins. Sclereids are observed in the upper parts of the wall in *SB* and *FM* (Fig. 3f,g). Fibres are observed in *AC* (Fig. 2f).

Vascular bundles

In all cases the vascular bundles are collateral vascular bundles with conspicuous schizogenous ducts in the phloem (Figs 2a,c, f and 3a,b,c,g,k,l). In GT and GB the phloem is hypertrophied to such an extent that the vascular bundles may appear to be amphicribral. With the exception of PC, many vascular bundles are present. These vascular bundles are sometimes particularly hypertrophied (Fig. 3a). The size is markedly heterogeneous in SW and GB (Fig. 3k,l). In most galls a single vascular bundle is observed in the wall. Its xylem is oriented towards the lumen of the galls, i.e. (lumen)-xylem-phloem (Figs 2a,f and 3a,b,c,g). In SW, GU, BP and RB, two vascular bundles are observed facing the wall. With respect to the lumen of the gall, the bundles are oriented as follows: (lumen)-phloem-xylem/xylem-phloem (Fig. 31). The vascular bundles of AC present a periphloematic sheath of fibres (Fig. 2f). In FR this sheath is observed only in the vascular bundles close to the closure zone of the gall (Fig. 3c).

Epidermis-lumen

In all cases, the epidermis-lumen is multiseriate (three to five cell layers; Figs 2a,f and 3a,b,g). This epidermis does not present trichomes or stomata. In most galls a cuticle is observed (Figs 2f and 3a,b,g) and there are no dimples in the epidermal surface (Figs 2h and 3e). Nevertheless, there is no cuticle in SW, GU, BP and RB, and these species also present a dimpled epidermal surface (Fig. 3m).

Closure zone

In all cases the closure zone involves morphological adaptation (usually flattening) of parts of the leaflet that form the 'door' (Fig. 1a–d). In *AC*, *FF*, *GM*, *GT* and *GB* unicellular trichomes are observed in the two areas that approach each other to form the closure zone (Fig. 2g,h). In *AC*, *FR*, *FF* and *GM* there is an accumulation of crystals (Fig. 3c), and in *PC* there is an accumulation of sclereids is observed (Fig. 3c,f,g).

Table 2. Microscopic characteristics considered in the comparative study of the galls

	AL	AC	FR	SB	SW	PC	FM	FF	GU	BP	RB	GM	GT	GB
General characteristics														
On Pistacia lentiscus a	+	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	-	-	-	_	_	_
On Pistacia palaestinaa	_	+	_	_	_	_	_	_	-	-	+	_	_	_
On Pistacia atlanticaa	_	_	+	+	+	_	_	_		-	_	_	_	_
On Pistacia terebinthusa	_	_	_	_	_	+	+	+	+	+	—	_	_	_
On Pistacia mexicanaa	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	-	-	-	_	+	+	+
With unmodified leafleta	+	+	+	+	_	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	_	_
Fold of the leaflet laminaa	+	+	+	+	_	+	+	+	-		_	+	_	_
Longitudinal shapea	+	+	_	_	n/a	_	_	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	+	n/a	n/a
Ovoid shapea	_	_	+	_	n/a	_	—	+	n/a	n/a	n/a	_	n/a	n/a
Circular shapea	_	_	-	+	n/a	_	+		n/a	n/a	n/a	_	n/a	n/a
Flattened shapea	_	_	_	_	n/a	+	_	_	n/a	n/a	n/a	_	n/a	n/a
Involvement of midveina	+	+	_	(+)	+	_	-	_	+	+	+	+	+	+
Tannin inclusions	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Tannins throughout the walla	_	+	+	_	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	(+)	_	_
Only in upper part of the walla	+	_	_	+	_	+	_		_	_	_	_	(+)	+
Crystalsa	+	(+)	+	(+)	+	+	(+)	+	_	+	_	+	(+)	(+)
In upper part of the walla	+	_	+	+	+	+	+	+	n/a	+	n/a	+	+	_
Microcrystalsa	+	_	_	_		_	_	_	n/a	_	n/a	_	_	_
Prismsa	_	+	_	_		- /	_	_	n/a	_	n/a	_	_	_
Drusesa	+	_	+	+	+	+	+	+	n/a	+	n/a	+	+	+
Epidermis—air														
Uniseriate epidermis	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Cuticle	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Stomata	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Microcrystalsa	_	_	_	_	_	+	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Trichomesa	_	+	_	+	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	(+)	+	+
Gall body														
Parenchyma cells	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Upper part and lower parta	+	_		+	+	_	+	+	_	(+)	_	+	+	+
Sclereidsa	_	_	_	+	_	_	+	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Fibersa	_	+	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Vascular bundles														
Collaterala	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	(+)	(+)
Schizogenous ducts	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Manya	(+)	+	+	(+)	+	_	(+)	+	+	+	+	+	+	(+)
Hypertrophieda	-		+	_	+	_	_	+	+	+	+	_	+	+
Heterogeneous sizea		-	_	_	+	_	_	_	_	-	_	_	_	+
One vascular bundlea	+	+	+	+	_	+	+	+	_	_	_	+	+	+
Xylem oriented towards lumena	+	+	+	+	_	+	+	+	_	_	_	+	+	+
Two vascular bundlesa		_	_	_	+	_	_	_	+	+	+	_	_	_
Sheath of fibersa	_	+	(+)	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Enidermis-lumen			(.)											
Multiseriate epidermisa	(+)	+	+	(+)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Trichomes	_	·		_	_	_	_	_	_	· _	_	_	_	_
Stomata	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
Cuticlesa	(+)	+	+	+	_	+	+	+	_	_	_	+	+	+
Dimplesa	_	_		_	+	_	_	_	+	+	+	_	_	_
With adaptation	+	+	+	+	n/a	+	+	+	n/a	n/a	n/a	+	+	+
Trichomesa		+	_		n/a	_	-	+	n/a	n/2	n/2	+	+	+
Accumulation of crystalsa		+	+		n/a			+	n/a	n/2	n/2	+	_	_
Accumulation of tapping	_		1-	_	n/a	_ +	_	F	n/a	n/a	n/a		_	_
	_	_	_	-	n/a	1		_	n/a	n/a	n/a	_	_	_
	_	_	17	17	11/d		1.	_	11/d	11/d	11/d	_	_	_

Microscopic characteristics studied in galls of 14 species of gallicolous aphids (AC: A. cynodonti; AL: A. lentiscii; BP: B. pistaciae; FF: F. formicaria; FM:

F. marginata; FR: F. riccobonii; GB: G. blackmani; GM: G. morral; GT: G. torsus; GU: G. utricularia; PC: P. cimiciformis; RB: R. buxtoni; SB: S. betae; SW:

S. wertheimae): general characteristics, epidermis-air, gall body, vascular bundles, epidermis-lumen and closure zone. + indicates presence, - absence, (+) intermediate situation. n/a: not applicable.

^aVariables submitted to analysis.



Fig. 2. Galls induced by *A. lentisci* (a–d) and *A. cynodonti* (e–h). (a): Wall of *A. lentisci*. The xylem of the vascular bundles (x) is oriented towards the lumen of **11** the gall. (b): Presence of abundant microcrystals (bright points) in the wall of *A. lentisci*. (c): Hypertrophied midvein of *A. lentisci* in which the double vascular bundle (ph-x/x-ph) is observed. Note the absence of trichomes on the epidermis of the midvein participating in the closure zone (see Fig. 1a). (d): External surface of *A. lentisci*. (e): External surface of *A. cynodonti* on which some trichomes (t) are observed. (f): Wall of *A. cynodonti*. The xylem of the vascular bundles (x) is oriented towards the lumen of the gall. Note the sheath of fibres (fi) accompanying the phloem. (g–h): Closure zone of *A. cynodonti* with abundant trichomes (t). (a, b, c, f): Safranin-Fast Green. (a, c, f): Bright-field microscope; (b): Polarized light microscope; (d, e, h): SEM; (g): Epifluorescence microscope. c =cuticle, ea =epidermis-air, el =epidermis-lumen, fi = fibres, L = lumen of the gall, LA = lamina, pa = parenchyma, ph = phloem, s = stoma, sd = schizogenous duct, t = trichome, x = xylem.

The hierarchical nature of the cluster analysis used enables us to establish groupings of galls that are graphically represented by means of a dendrogram. The dendrogram resulting from the analysis of 27 variables common to all 14 galls (Fig. 4) establishes the existence of two very distant groups. One group comprises *RB*, *GU*, *SW* and *BP*, while the other group includes all the other ten studied galls, but with *GT* and *GB* clustering separately from the rest. The dendrogram made with the eight remaining galls (Fig. 5), using the 39 variables that they have in common, reveals the existence of two groups. One group comprises *AL*, *GM* and *AC*, while the other group includes *FR*, *FF*, *SB*, *FM* and *PC*.

DISCUSSION

Microscopic study of the 14 galls allows us to determine the characteristics that are common to all of them, as well as those that distinguish between them. All the galls studied present tannin inclusions. In addition, the vascular bundles are collateral with clear schizogenous ducts in the phloem. The presence of these ducts and tannin inclusions are attributes of the Anacardiaceae, and of the genus *Pistacia* (Watson & Dallwitz 1992; Álvarez *et al.* 2008). Moreover, in all galls the epidermis-air is uniseriate, covered with cuticle, and contains stomata. The walls of the galls comprise storage parenchyma cells interspersed with vascular bundles. The epidermis-lumen is multiseriate, and lacks stomata and trichomes. Some galls have unicellular trichomes in the epidermis-lumen in the closure zone, an adaptation of the two walls of the gall to form the 'door'.

The group consisting of *RB*, *GU*, *SW* and *BP* is differentiated from the others by the two opposed vascular bundles in the

wall, and phloem as the conductive tissue closest to the chamber of the gall. The vascular bundles are hypertrophied. In addition, the galls of this group have an epidermis-lumen with dimples, but without cuticle. These galls are closed, lacking the 'door' present in the other galls; this may be related to evolutionary issues (Inbar 2006; Álvarez *et al.* 2013).

Two subgroups emerged in relation to the presence or absence of an unmodified leaflet accompanying the gall: the gall was associated with an unmodified portion of the leaflet in GU and RB, while this association was absent in BP and SW. Whereas BP and SW induce bud galls (established on a branch, leaf or leaflet), GU and RB induce hyperplasia and cell hypertrophy in the midvein region, and the gall is associated with a portion of the unmodified leaflet. BP is banana-shaped and is induced on P. terebinthus, while SW resembles a cauliflower (Inbar 2006) and is induced on P. atlantica. GU is globoid, and occurs on P. terebinthus, while RB, with its spherical and elongated shape, occurs on P. palaestina.

The remaining galls (*GT*, *GB*, *SB*, *AL*, *PC*, *AC*, *GM*, *FM*, *FF* and *FR*) constitute the second group, distinguished from the first group by the single vascular bundle in the wall, with xylem as the conductive tissue closest to the gall chamber. Furthermore, the galls of this group have an epidermis-lumen with a cuticle and without dimples. Some are not accompanied with an unmodified leaflet (*GT* and *GB*), whereas the rest have an unmodified part of a leaflet (*SB*, *AL*, *PC*, *AC*, *GM*, *FM*, *FF* and *FR*).

The group formed by GB and GT is characterised by a few crystalline inclusions, and by trichomes on the epidermis-air and in the closure zone. Both are induced on *P. mexicana*, but GB has a globoid gall whereas GT has a fusiform gall. Perhaps



Fig. 3. Galls induced by *F. riccobonii* (a–e), *S. betae* (f–j) and *S. wertheimae* (k–m). (a): Wall of *F. riccobonii*. Large vascular bundles with the xylem (x) facing **12** the lumen. (b): Detail of a vascular bundle of *F. riccobonii*. Note the xylem (x) facing the lumen (L) and the presence of a stylet sheath (ss). (c): Closure zone of *F. riccobonii* containing cells with birefringent secondary walls (sc) on both sides of the 'door'. Note the abundance of bright spots (druses) and the presence of periphloematic fibres (fi) in the vascular bundle (vb). (d): External surface of *F. riccobonii* on which stomata (s) are observed. (e): Surface lining the chamber of *F. riccobonii*. It has a padded appearance without dimples. (f): Closure zone of *S. betae*. Sclereids (sc) are also observed in the wall of the gall. (g): Distal portion of the modified leaflet participating in the closure zone of *S. betae*. The wall has parenchyma (pa), vascular bundles (vb) with the xylem oriented towards the lumen and sclereids (sc). On both epidermises the cuticle (c) is conspicuous. (h): Stoma present on the external surface of *S. betae*. (i,j): Characteristic trichome (t) of the gall induced by *S. betae*. (k): The section shown in Fig. 1e observed under a polarised light microscope reveals pairs of packages of xylem (x) and abundant druses (the remaining bright spots) in the wall of the gall. (l): The vascular bundles of *S. betae* are double, face each other, and have the phloem oriented towards the lumen of the gall (phloem – xylem / xylem – phloem). Compare with the vascular bundles in Figs 2a, 2f, 3a, g. (m): Inner surface of the gall induced by *S. betae* in which dimples are observed. Compare with Fig. 3e. (c, i, k, l): Safranin-Fast Green. (a, b, f, g): Epifluorescence microscope; (b, i, l): Bright-field microscope; (c, k): Polarised light microscope; (d, e, h, j, m): SEM. c = cuticle, ea = epidermis-air, el = epidermis-lumen, fi = fibres, L = lumen of the gall, LA = lamina, pa = parenchyma, ph = phloem, s = sto

these galls originate, like *BP* and *SW*, from the complete modification of a bud. However, the latter are induced on *P. terebinthus* (*BP*) and *P. atlantica* (*SW*), which are known to have a supernumerary vascular bundle next to the vascular bundle of the midvein (Álvarez *et al.* 2008; see Fig. 2c). The hypertrophy and hyperplasia of the vascular bundle of the midvein and also



Fig. 4. Dendrogram obtained by considering the 27 variables common to the 14 galls (AC: A. cynodonti; AL: A. lentisci; BP: B. pistaciae; FF: F. formicaria; FM: F. marginata; FR: F. riccobonii; GB: G. blackmani; GM: G. morral; GT: G. torsus; GU: G. utricularia; PC: P. cimiciformis; RB: R. buxtoni; SB: S. betae; SW: Slavum wertheimae). The groupings obtained are boxed: RB, GU, SW and BP comprise one group and the remaining species form a second group. Within this latter group a sub-group formed by GT and GB is apparent; the other species (cross-hatched) form a second subgroup that is further analysed in Fig. 5.

Fig. 5. Dendrogram obtained by considering the 39 variables common to the group of galls highlighted in Fig. 4 (AC: A. cynodonti; AL: A. lentisci; FF: F. formicaria; FM: F. marginata; FR: F. riccobonii; GM: G. morral; PC: P. cimiciformis; SB: S. betae). The groupings obtained are boxed: FR, FF, SB, FM and PC form one group and AL, GM and AC form another group.

of the supernumerary vascular bundle, determines the existence of two vascular bundles in the walls of the galls under discussion (Álvarez 2012). Perhaps the leaflets of *P. mexicana* do not have a supernumerary vascular bundle, so that the single vascular bundle constitutes the wall of the gall, although the phloem is developed to such an extraordinary extent that the vascular bundles in those galls sometimes appear to be amphicribral (Muñoz-Viveros *et al.* 2014).

The group comprising AL, GM and AC consists of galls induced on the middle portion of the leaflet. Both GM (induced on *P. mexicana*) and AL (induced on *P. lentiscus*) are pocket-shaped: in GM, the two leaflet margins (to the right and the left of the midvein) fold over the midvein towards each other, forming the 'door' of the gall with trichomes on both sides. In AL, one of the hypertrophied leaflet margins approaches the midvein. The presence of abundant microcrystals is remarkable. The gall induced by AC on *P. palaestina*, which is also pocket-shaped, has a unique feature among all the studied galls – a periphloematic sheath of fibres. Groups of (non-vascular) fibres are also seen in the wall of the gall. The presence of fibres in the wall is probably related to the primary function of the sclerenchyma – to provide support (Evert 2006) – given that the galls are relatively large and do not have particularly hypertrophied vascular bundles. Note that the xylem, apart from being conductive tissue, consists of lignified cells that support the structures in which they are found (Evert 2006).

The similarities between the five remaining galls (*FR*, *FF*, *SB*, *FM* and *PC*) are remarkable. They are all folding galls, with a closure zone, and the midvein of the leaflet does not participate in the formation of the gall. Nevertheless, there are specific features that can be used to differentiate them into pairs: the group comprising *SB* and *FM* is characterised by rounded galls with few crystal inclusions and, above all, by abundant sclereids in both the upper part of the wall and the closure zone. Both *FM*, which is induced on *P. terebinthus*, and *SB*, which is induced on *P. atlantica*, have peculiar trichomes on the epidermis-air. These trichomes have not been previously described in the genus *Pistacia* or in any gall induced on this genus by aphids. Future studies will clarify whether these trichomes

similar to those of the leaflets on which they develop. In other

words: PC is the species that induces the fewest morphological

changes in the leaflet margins. It is striking that the pairs of

galls considered, SB-FM and FR-FF, share common features,

but that some are induced on P. terebinthus while others are

induced on *P. atlantica*. In this context of convergent patterns,

perhaps the galls induced by Tramaforda wooli (TW) on P. at-

lantica (Manhein 2007) should be considered similar to PC. They are both flattened galls. Future studies will indicate

Heie & Wegierek (2009) divide the genera analysed in this

study into three groups (regardless of taxonomic category): (1)

Forda – Paracletus – Rectinasus – Smynthurodes – Tramaforda; (2) Aploneura – Asiphonella – Baizongia – Geopemphigus –

whether PC and TW may be considered similar galls.

sary taxonomic review of the tribe Fordini.

(apparently non-glandular, flattened and with papillae) can be considered to be common trichomes with atypical growth caused by the aphid. This also applies to other morphologically similar trichomes observed in mutants of *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Johnson *et al.* 2002).

Galls induced by *FR* and *FF* are ovoid, *i.e.* they are neither circular nor flattened. They have many especially hypertrophied vascular bundles. *FF* is induced on *P. terebinthus* and presents trichomes in the closure zone. *FR*, which is induced on *P. atlantica*, does not present any trichomes although it does have sclereids in the closure zone.

Paracletus cimiciformis (*PC*) induces flattened galls on *P. terebinthus*. It presents microcrystals in the epidermis-air, a feature shared with the leaflets of *P. terebinthus* (Álvarez *et al.* 2008). It also presents tannin accumulation in the closure zone. Of all the galls studied that form on the leaflet margin, the microscopic characteristics of this species' galls are most

Table 3. Different groupings of the analysed species

Remaudière,			
Stroyan &	Heie &		
Quednau	Wegierek		
extended	revised		
classificaction	classificaction		
Fordina	Feudini		
(Aprilaidae,	FOIGINI (Friesematidae		
Enosomatinae, Fordini)	(Enosonatioae,	Procont study	
FOI UIIII)	Forumae)	Three groups wit	h
		two subgroups of	n
Just one aroup	Three aroups	the thrird one	
	5 - 1 - 1		
	Subtribe Fordina		
Aloephagus	^a Forda	Baizongia pistaci	ae
Apioneura	aparacletus	Geoica utricularia	
Asiphonella	^a Rectinasus	Rectinasus buxto	ni
Baizongia	"Smynthurodes	Slavun wertheim	ae
Chaetogeoica	Tramaforda		
Forda	Subtribe	Geopemphigus	
dC a alian	Baizonglina	Diackmani	
Geolca	Aloephagus	Geopempnigus	
^a Geonemphiqus	^a Anloneura	torsus	
^a Paracletus	^a Asiphonella	Aplonerura	Forda formicaria
	·	lentisci	
^a Rectinasus	^a Baizongia	Asiphonella	Forda marginata
		cynodonti	
aSlavum	^a Geopemphigus	Geopemphigus	Forda riccobonii
	3-1	morral	
"Smynthurodes	Slavum		Paracletus
			cimicitormis
Tramaforda	Subtribe Geoicina		Smynthurodes
	Chaetogeoica		Delde
	ac '		

In the extended classification of Remaudière, Stroyan & Quednau (Nieto Nafría & Favret 2011), one group is established; three groups (subtribes) are defined in the revised classification of Heie & Wegierek (Nieto Nafría & Favret 2011); and three groups (the third one with two subgroups) are presented in this study based on histological features. Genera alphabetically arranged.

be in the closure zone. The leaflet margin, the ecies' galls are most study. The groupings of gallicolous aphids based on microscopic features determined in the present study (Table 3) should be taken into consideration when conducting the neces-

All observations made in this study can be summarised as a taxonomic key.

1.	Galls with two vascular bundles	2
	in the wall and epidermis-	
	lumen with dimples	
	Galls with a vascular bundle	5
	in the wall and epidermis-	
	lumen without dimples	
2.	Without remains of a	3
	healthy leaflet	
	With remains of a healthy leaflet	4
3.	Induced on P. terebinthus	Baizongia pistaciae
	and banana-shaped	
	Induced on P. atlantica and	Slavum wertheimae
	cauliflower-shaped	
4.	Globose, induced on P. terebinthus	Geoica utricularia
	Globose and elongated,	Rectinasus buxtoni
	induced on P. palaestina	
5.	Without remains of a	6
	healthy leaflet	
	With remains of a healthy leaflet	7
6.	Induced on P. mexicana, elongated	Geopemphigus torsus
	Induced on P. mexicana, globose	Geopemphigus
		blackmani
7.	Located on the margin of the leaflet	8
	Located on the middle part of the leaflet	12
8.	Ovoid cross-section, contains	9
	abundant, large vascular bundles	
	Circular cross-section, contains sclereids	10
	Flattened cross-section	11
9.	Induced on P. terebinthus,	Forda formicaria
	has trichomes in the closure zone	
	Induced on P. atlantica	Forda riccobonii
10.	Induced on P. terebinthus	Forda marginata
	Induced on P. atlantica	Smynthurodes betae
11.	Induced on P. terebinthus	Paracletus cimiciformis
	Induced on P. atlantica	Tramafroda wooli
12.	Formed by one leaflet lamina	Aploneura lentisci
	Formed by two leaflet laminae	Geopemphigus morral
	Fibres in the vascular bundles and the wall	Asiphonella cynodonti

^aGenera analysed in the present study.

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