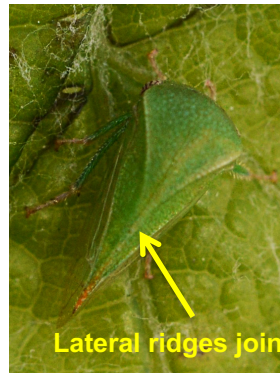
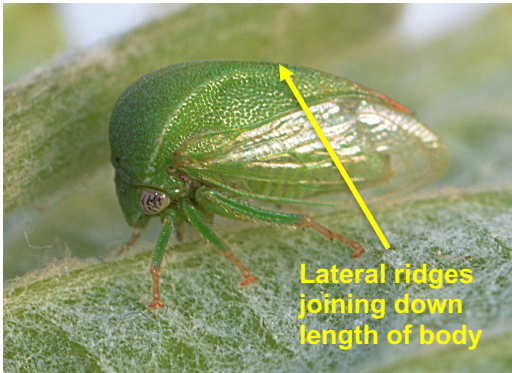


Two treehopper species in California Family Membracidae

Treehoppers are identified by the enlarged and elongated first thorax segment (pronotum) which projects above the head and extends back over the abdomen. Key characteristics distinguishing these two species are: a) size and b) where lateral ridges join.

Threecornered alfalfa hopper, *Spissistilus festinus*



Nymph has 12 pairs of hairy spines and a protruding "tail" at the end of the abdomen.

Photo: Charles Lewallen

Adult ~1/4 inch (6mm) long and green in color. Pronotum gradually curves backwards with lateral ridges joining midway to 3/4 the length of the body. No lateral horns.

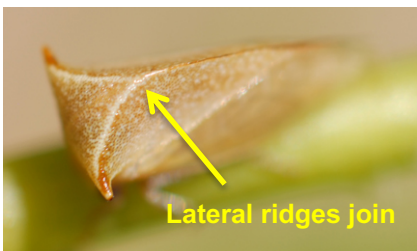
Tortistilus albidosparsus



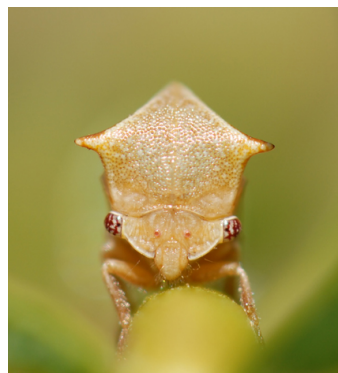
Adult ~1/3 inch (8mm) long; brown or green in color. The pronotum rises vertically above the head with the lateral ridges joining over the thorax. Polymorphic (many forms) species; some hornless, others with pronotal lateral cone-like horns of various sizes.



Photo: Cindy Preto



Above and center photos: specimen with red-tipped lateral pronotal horns.



Above photo: green hornless specimen (left); brown with pronotal horns (right).