

The Small Ashy Gray Ladybird Beetle

By Arthur L. Antonelli, Extension Entomologist
WSU Puyallup

The small ashy gray ladybird beetle (*Psyllobora viginti-maculata taedata*) is about $\frac{3}{32}$ inch long and is mottled cream and blackish in color. Common in western Washington, these beetles are often found on apple leaves infected with the fungus disease powdery mildew. These beetles apparently eat the mildew spores but probably do not eat enough to control the disease. They may occasionally eat certain insects. The beetle is considered beneficial and will not damage the plant on which it is found.



Fig. 1. The small ashy gray ladybird beetle,
Psyllobora viginti-maculata taedata
(Say) form *taedata* Lec. By A.L. Antonelli.