

THE SYNONYMY OF *EMPOASCA FABALIS* DE LONG
(CICADELLIDAE: HOMOPTERA)

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Empoasca fabalis DeLong¹ was described from material collected April 15 and June 18, 1929 by Dr. R. C. Smith at Port-au-Prince, Haiti, and reported by him as "extremely abundant upon beans and sweet potatoes". Three years later *Empoasca batatae*² Poos was described from material reared on sweet potato in a green house at Arlington Farms, Virginia, and from material collected on the same host at Fort Myers, Florida. Subsequently the two names have remained in literature and have caused some confusion because only one species is involved. *Fabalis* DeL. has been reported as the most abundant form on beans in Puerto Rico. Recently Dr. Luis F. Martorell and myself spent over five months collecting *Empoasca* in Puerto Rico. The common form we found on beans proved to be *fabae* (Harris). The form taken on sweet potato and morning glory vines I identified as *batatae* Poos because the drawing of that form is more typical than the drawing for *fabalis* DeL. This raised the question and the suspicion that *batatae* was the same species as *fabalis*. After I took *batatae* (really *fabalis*) from morning glory at Port-au-Prince, Haiti, the type locality of *fabalis*, I was convinced that the two were the same species. As the request of Dr. G. N. Wolcott, Monsieur Léonce Bonnefil fils, Head of the Section of Entomology, Département de l'Agriculture, République d'Haiti, forwarded two topotype collections from Damien, near Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The specimens from sweet potato were practically pure *fabalis* DeL. and the forms from bush beans were *fabae* (Harris). Later I have learned that Dr. Ralph H. Davidson considers *batatae* Poos to be a synonym of *fabalis* DeL. but has never published the fact, so I take this opportunity to do so now.

1. Can. Ent., 62:92. 1930.

2. Proc. Ent. Soc. Wash., 35:176-177. 1933.