All authors visited Loxton in May 2002 where sweep net sampling was carried out in vineyards, “overflow” areas and in other areas near high intensity AGY vineyards.

A total of 28 samples was taken and the most common species was the common brown leafhopper *Orosius argentatus* (Cicadellidae: Deltocephalinae) which was present in 14 of 15 samples swept from yanga bush, *Maireana brevifolia* (Chenopodiaceae) *O. argentatus* was absent from 13 samples collected from 10 other plant species/communities. *O. argentatus* was also present in large numbers in a single sweep net sample from yanga bush growing near an AGY affected vineyard near Griffith NSW in June 2002.

**A clear association between common brown leafhopper and yanga bush**

Much of the yanga bush at Loxton had pink or yellow discolouration which may indicate the presence of a “yellows” type disease. Five samples of yanga bush tested negative for presence of AGY using primers developed for AGY — more testing needs to be performed.

**A working hypothesis**

- *O. argentatus* is a vector for AGY
- Yanga bush is the winter host of *O. argentatus*
- Yanga bush is the primary native host of AGY
- AGY spreads from yanga bush to neighbouring vineyards when *O. argentatus* disperses in Spring

**Hypothesis...**

“Overflow” areas harbour a native plant not present in vineyards. This plant hosts a native leaf/planthopper vector of AGY.