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For nonnegative parameters α , β , γ , A, B, C such that A + B + C > 0, consider the difference equation

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{\alpha + \beta x_n + \gamma x_{n-1}}{A + B x_n + C x_{n-1}}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \quad (x_{-1}, x_0) \in R$$
 (E)

where either $R = [0, \infty)^2 \setminus \{(0, 0)\}$ if A = 0, or $R = [0, \infty)^2$ if A > 0.

We give a complete qualitative description of the global behavior of solutions for all nonlinear difference equations (E) for which prime period-two solutions exist. (Received August 20, 2008)