

[UC IPM Home](#)[Printer-friendly version](#)[Search](#)**How to Manage Pests**[Home & garden](#)[Agriculture](#)[Natural environments](#)[Exotic & invasive](#)[Weather data & products](#)[Degree-days](#)[Interactive tools & models](#)**Educational Resources**[Publications & more](#)[Workshops and events](#)[Training programs](#)[Pesticide information](#)**Research and IPM**[Grants programs](#)[Funded-project results](#)

- [What's new](#)
- [In the news](#)
- [Announcements](#)
- [Site index](#)
- [Help](#)
- [Acknowledgments](#)
- [UC ANR: more topics](#)

How to Manage Pests**UC Pest Management Guidelines**

| [More pests](#) | [More crops](#) | [About guidelines](#) |

**Fig
Fig Scale**

Scientific Name: *Lepidosaphes
conchiformis*

(Reviewed 7/06, updated 7/06)

In this Guideline:

- [Description of the pest](#)
- [Damage](#)
- [Management](#)
- [Publication](#)
- [Glossary](#)

**DESCRIPTION OF THE PEST**

Overwintering adults are dark brown with a greasy-appearing wax coating; summer broods and younger scales are lighter in color. Overwintering females are found on 1- to 2-year-old wood. Eggs are laid in spring, and crawlers hatch when leaves are unfolding. First generation scales settle on leaves, but later generations settle on leaves, twigs, or fruit. Adult female scales are oystershell shaped and about 0.1 inch long. There are usually three generations with occasionally a partial fourth.

DAMAGE

Damage is caused when scales settle on fruit. Their feeding causes a kind of callous tissue to form on the skin, which gives the fruit a warty appearance. It is particularly noticeable if the fruit is canned or candied.

MANAGEMENT

A [wasp](#) parasite (*Aphytis* sp.), imported in 1949 from France, generally gives excellent control of the fig scale. If the scale parasite has been disrupted for some reason, chemical control may be necessary. Treatments applied during the dormant season will adequately control the scale in most cases and have the least disruptive effect on the parasites.

**Common name
(trade name)**

Amount to Use

When choosing a pesticide, consider information relating to [impact on natural enemies and honey bees](#) and environmental impact.

DORMANT

- A. NARROW RANGE OIL#
(Omni Supreme Spray)

3 gal/acre or
2 gal/100 gal water

MODE OF ACTION: Contact including smothering and barrier effects.

Acceptable for use on organically grown produce.

PRECAUTIONS**PUBLICATION**

UC IPM Pest Management Guidelines: Fig
UC ANR Publication 3447
Insects and Mites

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[Top of page](#)

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