

Citricola Scale

Coccus pseudomagnoliarum (Kuwana)

Homoptera: Coccidae

Dreistadt, S. H.; Flint, M. L. 1995. Landscape pest monitoring methods and training managers to use them. *Journal of Arboriculture* 21: 1-6.

Objective: To describe a method of monitoring *C. pseudomagnoliarum* populations to determine when control measures should be applied.

Abstract: The citricola scale, *Coccus pseudomagnoliarum* (Kuwana), often infests hackberry, *Celtis* spp., in urban plantings in California. Infestations cause dieback and a proliferation of honeydew, a waste product that forms a sticky residue on anything below infested trees. Populations can be monitored effectively in urban landscapes with sticky tape traps designed to sample the crawler stage. If control treatments are warranted, insecticides or oils are applied after peak crawler emergence or after a sharp increase in the number of crawlers caught per trap (i.e., 40 crawlers per traps).

Sampling Procedure: Monitor *C. pseudomagnoliarum* crawlers using double-sided transparent tape available in any stationary store. To make traps, a twig or small branch (9-13 mm in length) is wrapped tightly with a strip of tape about 12 cm in length. Double over the free end of each sticky band to make a handle to facilitate tape removal. Newly-hatched crawlers will get stuck in the tape traps as they search for new feeding sites.

Deploy two or three traps per tree before crawlers are expected (i.e., late April in this study). Once deployed, monitor and change traps with new material weekly in the same location. Count the number of crawlers from each monitoring date to determine peak crawler emergence. Apply treatment during peak crawler emergence or when a sharp increase in crawler number is noticed in the traps, or both.

Notes: The reader must be able to identify *C. pseudomagnoliarum* life stages. This technique is very efficient and took one person 1 h per week during spring to collect and replace 22 traps.