



Citrus—Citricola Scale Monitoring

Supplement to UC IPM Pest Management Guidelines: Citrus

Grower: _____ Block: _____ Date: _____

Comments: _____

Check for citricola scale at all times of the year when monitoring for other scales. Look especially closely at female scales on the twigs from April to May and at the underside of leaves for first instar nymphs from July to September. Be sure to distinguish live nymphs from dead nymphs.

How to monitor citricola scale adults from April through May

Select 4 rows from throughout the orchard. In each row, select 10 trees and examine one, 24-inch twig from the northeast side of each tree, for a total of 40 twigs distributed throughout the orchard. Count the number of adult scales observed per twig and determine the average (total scales counted / 40 twigs).

- If more than 1 adult scale per twig is present and heavy production of sooty mold is occurring, the orchard may require an immediate treatment.
- If adult scales on twigs are observable but sooty mold is not a problem, then it is best to postpone treatments until mid-July through August when scale nymphs are present and easier to control.

How to monitor citricola scale nymphs from July through mid-September using presence/absence sampling

1. Walk down 4, evenly-spaced rows of the block.
2. In each row, pick one leaf from the northeast corner of each of 25 trees.
3. Examine the scale nymphs on the underside of the leaf to determine if they are alive or dead.
4. Count the number of leaves in the 25-leaf sample that are infested with live nymphs (presence-absence sampling) and record counts below.
5. A treatment is warranted if 1 or more of the 4 rows has 13 or more leaves infested with live citricola scale nymphs in a 25-leaf sample.
 - If 5 to 12 leaves are infested, the population may exceed the threshold in the next year, and should be watched closely.
 - If 4 or fewer leaves are infested in all rows, then a treatment is not needed this season.

How to monitor citricola scale nymphs per leaf from July through mid-September

1. Alternatively, count the number of nymphs on those 100 leaves (4 rows × 25 leaves) and if there are more than 0.5 nymphs per leaf then treatment is needed.

| Sample area | Number of infested leaves per 25 leaf sample | 1–4 Don't treat | 5–12 Possibly treat | 13–25 Treat* |
|-------------|--|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Row 1 | | | | |
| Row 2 | | | | |
| Row 3 | | | | |
| Row 4 | | | | |

* = Alternately, take an average of nymphs per 100 leaves. If >0.5 nymph/leaf is present, consider making an insecticide application.