

Pest Alert

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Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Plant Industry
Adam H. Putnam Commissioner of Agriculture

White mango scale *Aulacaspis tubercularis* Newstead (Coccoidea: Diaspididae)

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INTRODUCTION: Division of Plant Industry inspector Keith Richardson collected this new Continental US Record on January 10, 2002 at a Nursery, in Miami, Florida. The host plant was *Mangifera indica*. Since that date surveys within a two block radius have not produced any additional infestations.

DESCRIPTION: The opaque white female armor is circular, flat, thin and often wrinkled. Exuviae is near the margin, and is yellowish-brown, with a median black ridge, forming a dark distinct median line. Male armors are small, white, sides nearly parallel and distinctly tricarinate. Crawlers are deep bright brick red.

ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE: The economic importance is unknown, but the literature indicates it can become extremely numerous on mango in South Africa. I would consider it an economic threat to mango in Florida. The Division of Plant Industry is pursuing the possibility of biological controls.

HOSTS: **Aceraceae:** *Acer kawakamii*. **Anacardiaceae:** *Mangifera indica*, *Mangifera* sp. **Arecaceae:** *Cocos nucifera*. **Iridaceae:** *Dietes prolongata*. **Lauraceae:** *Cinnamomum camphora*, *Cinnamomum ceylanicum*, *Laurus nobilis*, *Litsea laurifolia*, *Litsea polyantha*, *Litsea pungens*, *Litsea sebifera*, *Machilus* sp., *Phoebe* sp. **Pittosporaceae:** *Pittosporum glabratum*. **Rutaceae:** *Citrus* sp. **Sapindaceae:** *Dimocarpus longan*.

DISTRIBUTION: **Afrotropical:** Ghana; Kenya; Madagascar; Mauritius; Mozambique; Reunion; Rodrigues Island; South Africa; Tanzania; Uganda; Zanzibar; Zimbabwe. **Australasian:** New Caledonia; Vanuatu (New Hebrides). **Neotropical:** Aruba; Bermuda; Brazil; British Virgin Islands; Colombia; Dominican Republic; Grenada; Guadeloupe; Martinique; Puerto Rico & Vieques Island; Saint Croix; Trinidad and Tobago, Trinidad; U.S. Virgin Islands; Venezuela. **Oriental:** China (Guangdong) (Kwangtung), Hainan, Sichuan (Szechwan); India, Karnataka; Indonesia; Malaysia; Pakistan; Philippines; Sri Lanka; Taiwan; Thailand. **Palaeartic:** China; Egypt; Iraq; Israel; Italy; Japan.



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Life stages of white mango scale insect on mango.
Photo credit: Avas Hamon, DPI



White mango scale adult female armor, crawlers, and male armors.
Photo credit: Avas Hamon, DPI



Male armors of white mango scale.
Photo credit: Avas Hamon, DPI



White mango scale female with armor removed.
Photo credit: Avas Hamon, DPI



White mango scale female with the armor removed.
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