Insect pest and their control - Pink wax scale

C.F. H. Jenkins
PINK WAX SCALE

The pink wax scale is a comparatively new introduction into Western Australia and so far has been recorded only from the metropolitan area. Like all scale insects it is a sap-sucker and in common with the better known white wax scale encourages the prolific growth of sooty mould fungus on affected plants. Should this pest become established in commercial orange groves, expensive spray treatment may be necessary and so every effort should be made to control the present outbreaks, and to prevent the spread of the insects to clean districts.

The following notes have been prepared to assist fruit growers and home gardeners in identifying the pest and applying the most effective control measures:

DESCRIPTION

In its adult stage the scale is covered by a mass of pink waxy material not unlike a small blob of candle grease. The insects show a preference for tender growth and cluster on young twigs and leaves.

LIFE HISTORY

The young crawlers emerge from eggs deposited under the female scales and become active in the early summer. A second generation may appear on the leaves in March or April.

HOST PLANTS

Under local conditions pink wax scale has already been found infesting the following plants:—Pittosporum, umbrella trees, magnolias, lilli-pillii, Irish strawberry, ivy and N.S.W. box. In Queensland and N.S.W. the host list includes various types of citrus and quite a few bush plants.
TYPE OF DAMAGE
As the pink wax scale is a sap-sucker, a heavy infestation of this pest may affect the general health of a tree or shrub. Furthermore, the honey dew excreted by the scale may so encourage the growth of sooty mould that commercial fruit may require cleaning before it is suitable for market.

CONTROL
White spraying oil at the rate of 1 gallon to 40 gallons of water or 2 tablespoons to 1 gallon of water is used against most citrus scales and will kill the crawlers of the pink wax scale. Unfortunately, however, once the waxy covering is well developed a soda spray is necessary and the following mixture is recommended.

White Oil—1 tablespoonful (1 gall.).
Soda Ash—4 oz. (10 lb.).
or
Washing Soda—½ lb. (20 lb.).
Water—1 gallon (40 galls.).

Spray treatments should be given after the main hatching has been completed. For the first brood this should be early December and for the second brood about the end of March. The spray should not be applied during a heat wave. Foliage burning may follow its use on some delicate plants.

THE Marquis
PLASTIC
RAIN GAUGE

The "Marquis" Plastic Rain Gauge is a precision instrument made from weather-resistant plastic that measures from one point of rainfall to six inches. It can be easily attached to any post or fence (bracket and screws supplied). The "Marquis" Plastic Rain Gauge is available from all leading stores for £1. If unable to purchase from your local storekeeper, mail £1 to Commonwealth Moulding Pty. Ltd., 242 Prince's Highway, Arncliffe, N.S.W., and a "Marquis" Plastic Rain Gauge will be posted free to you by return.

Manufactured by
COMMONWEALTH MOULDING
PTY. LTD.
242 Prince's Highway, Arncliffe, N.S.W.

Please mention the "Journal of Agriculture of W.A." when writing to advertisers.
FINSBURY

Australia's BEST!

SELF PRIMING PUMPS and Fire Fighting Equipment

Also available 1½ in. S.P.P. model, a versatile, compact, portable close coupled unit weighing only 60 lb.

Prices 1½ in. S.P. long coupled, £87 10s.
1½ in. S.P.P. close coupled, £79 15s.

Hoses and fittings extra—prices of other sizes upon request.

The Finsbury 1½ S.P. self-priming pumps have an output of 4,200 gals. per hour—a total head of 95 ft. and a suctions lift of 25 ft. They are ruggedly constructed, with screwed bronze suction and delivery pieces. Open type impeller allows passage of small solids, etc. Seal and Valve washers are of oil resistant material—allowing use for pumping oil products if so desired.

S.P. units are supplied as standard with the following fire-fighting equipment:

- 10 ft. of 1½ in. wire embedded, smooth bore suction hose, complete with suction strainer nut and tail, and hose clamp. Two 20 ft. lengths at ¾ in., 3-ply delivery hoses complete with nut and tails, hose clamps and fire-fighting nozzles. One 1½ in. Y-piece to fit the pump with two 1 in. male branches to suit the delivery hoses. Each nozzle will throw a straight jet 50 ft. in length. Nozzle sizes available are: ¾ in., 3/16 in., ¼ in. diameter.

- Powerful MK 10 Villiers hi speed 4-stroke petrol engine on the 1½ S.P. models are long coupled units and are detachable from baseplate and pump, and may be used separately for other purposes.

Obtainable from—

532 MURRAY ST., PERTH
21 9711
Suppliers to Industry since 1860

Please mention the "Journal of Agriculture of W.A." when writing to advertisers.
SELF-PRIMING
PUMPS are the world's most dependable firefighters

Rex pumps unequalled simplicity is paying off for fire fighting organisations the world over. With only six rugged basic parts Rex pumps are free of mechanical troubles—they keep pumping faultlessly as long as there's water to pump. What's more, the exclusive Rex adjustable air-peeler keeps performance like new for the life of the pump. Remember . . . When you stake your life on a pump you can't lose if it's a Rex. See your Wesfarmers dealer or Wesfarmers Tutt Bryant for information.

Post this coupon for free details

WESFARMERS TUTT BRYANT PTY. LTD.
Railway Avenue, Bassendean, W.A.

Please send me details of the Rex Pump range.

NAME
ADDRESS

Please mention the "Journal of Agriculture of W.A." when writing to advertisers