ARMOURED SCALE

Greedy Scale, 
_Hemiberlesia rapax_ 
Latania Scale, and 
Oleander Scale

- Sap sucking insects which live beneath a protective cap
- Quarantine pests that create minor cosmetic damage
- Populations build up slowly but are difficult to control once they reach high levels

Infestations on fruit occur when populations of scale grow on nearby vines, wood or shelter.

Eggs hatch into crawlers soon after being laid. The crawlers can drift in the wind, but quickly settle on a food source, and do not move from that site.

Typical Symptoms of Plant Damage

Typically found on top side of the leaf near the stem and junction using microscopes. Scale may be found live or dead, young or old.

Fruit with scale symptoms (see white dot on kiwifruit pictured left) cannot be exported.

Heavy infestations affect the vigor of the plant. Early detection with regular monitoring enables control to keep populations low.

Crawler emergence peaks in two main periods of activity; Nov-Dec and again from mid-March to Early May.

Pre-flowering is a critical time for control. Two sprays are allowed in this period; Post green tip and 4-14 days before flowering.

The use of insecticide sprays such as Movento in the Pre-flowering period has been very successful in controlling scale populations.

Oil sprays can be used at various times post fruit set, but care must be taken to avoid fruit marking (especially on gold). Pre-monitoring sprays target the first generation of scale.

Once monitoring begins spray based on monitor results only; when live scale thresholds are greater than 7%.

If your shelter rows have high incidence, consider replacing high risk shelter eg. Poplars, Willows, Pittosporums.

Stages of Crop Growth Susceptible to Damage

Crawlers survival and settlement favor high humidity and sheltered conditions such as under dense canopies.

2-3 year old wood stubs are preferred by scale; remove large crowns as part of winter pruning.