Mealybugs & Mealybug Look-Alikes of the Southeastern United States
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- For further information regarding the development of this document, contact Amanda Hodges at achodges@ufl.edu or by phone at (352) 392-1901 ext. 199

- **Susan Ratcliffe**, University of Illinois, NCIPMC, Project Coordinator

- **Scott Martin**, University of Illinois, NCIPMC, Graphic Design
Authors

• **Amanda Hodges**, SPDN, University of Florida, Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences, Entomology & Nematology Department

• **Gregory Hodges**, Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, Division of Plant Industry

• **Lyle Buss**, University of Florida, Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences, Entomology & Nematology Department

• **Lance Osborne**, University of Florida, Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences, Mid-Florida Research & Education Center

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• **Lyle Buss, University of Florida, Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences, Entomology & Nematology Department** - 001c, 001d, 005, 008, 009, 010, 011, 012, 013, 014a, 014c, 015, 016, 017, 019a, 019b, 020a, 021a, 022a, 022b, 023b, 026, 027, 028, 029a, 029b, 030, 031, 032, 034, 036, 037, 038a, 039, Cover Photo

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• **Lance Osborne, University of Florida, Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences, Mid-Florida Research & Education Center** - 001b

• **Catharine Mannion, University of Florida, Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences, Tropical Research & Education Center** - 003, 006

• **Mike Merchant, Texas A&M University, Texas AgriLife Extension Service** - 038b
Mealybugs (Family Pseudococcidae)

Cottony Cushion Scale & Related Species (Family Margarodidae)

Soft Scales (Family Coccidae)

Felt Scales (Family Eriococcidae)

Cochineal Scales (Family Dactylopiidae)
What are mealybugs?

- Mealybugs are plant pests that feed by piercing-sucking mouthparts. They are classified in the family Pseudococcidae. Mealybugs, along with soft scales (Coccidae) and armored scales (Diaspididae), are the most common families of scale insects (Hemiptera: Coccoidea).

Why are mealybugs important?

- Approximately 11 of the 21 species of exotic scales and mealybugs that have established in the United States during the past 20 years are currently considered problematic pests. Four of these species are mealybugs: pink hibiscus mealybug, miscanthus mealybug, papaya mealybug, and vine mealybug.

- Most exotic scales and mealybugs of concern feed on a wide range of plants species, and they are capable of rapid population explosions.

- Awareness of common field characteristics promotes early detection for pests of concern.

How do you identify mealybugs?

- The common name “mealybug” is derived from the fine powdery to “mealy” wax that covers the body. Adult female mealybugs are wingless and the best life stage for identification. Adult male mealybugs are winged, but they are rarely seen except with specific chemical-based trapping systems. Most adult female mealybugs are small (a few millimeters to typically less than 1/2 inch), and a hand lens is useful for scouting. The immature or active “crawler” stage of mealybugs is typically less than half a millimeter and may be readily dispersed to new plants via wind currents.
The following characteristics are useful for field identification:

- Body shape, size, and color.
- The number of wax filaments protruding from the side of the body.
- Presence and length of wax filaments at the end of the body (i.e., terminal wax filaments).
- Color of eggs (if present).
- Presence of an ovisac (a waxy mass covering the eggs).
- Stripes on the body.
- Color of fluids when crushed.

Plant damage

- Because mealybugs feed on plant juices they produce honeydew. Honeydew (a sugary, sticky substance) promotes the growth of black sooty mold. Sooty mold may inhibit plant photosynthesis. Other signs of plant damage may include stunted plant growth, wilting, and crinkled leaves. Mealybugs commonly feed on new plant growth. The pink hibiscus mealybug also injects a toxic saliva while feeding, and a characteristic known as “bunchy top” is often seen on its preferred host plant, hibiscus.

General mealybug integrated pest management

- Chemical and biological control options may be available for some mealybug and scale insect species. A general website focusing on mealybugs is available at http://mrec.ifas.ufl.edu/LSO/Mealybug.htm. Biological control options often include species-specific parasitoids, and chemical recommendations may vary depending on pest species or local recommendations. Your local county extension service is the best source for information regarding chemical controls in your area.
Both biological and chemical control options are available for pink hibiscus mealybug. Once this pest has established in the landscape, biological control options are most often recommended. The most common natural enemies of pink hibiscus mealybug include the mealybug destroyer, *Cryptolaemus montrouzieri*, and the parasitic wasps, *Anagyrus kamali* and *Gyranusoidea indica*. In contrast, chemical options may be the only choice in a commercial/nursery setting.

Pink hibiscus mealybug is considered a regulatory pest of concern; subsequently, there is a zero tolerance for shipment of infested plant material. Please refer to the Pink Hibiscus Mealybug website http://mrec.ifas.ufl.edu/lso/pinkmealybug.htm for the latest up-to-date information on pink hibiscus mealybug management.

Mealybugs in this deck have been classified as the following:

1. Exotic: Not native to the United States, but has invaded.
2. Native: Native to the United States, or due to its widespread distribution and long-term establishment in the United States, its origin is uncertain.

**Warning**

- **Warning!** This deck is not a comprehensive listing of all mealybugs. Although useful as a field screening tool, field identification is not definitive for new county, host, state, or confidential records. Slide mounting of specimens and identification by a specialist is necessary for species-level confirmation.
Pink Hibiscus Mealybug

Field Recognition
Body color pink, about 3 mm long, no to few lateral (side) wax filaments, body fluid red to pink in color. Ovisacs are present covering pink to orange eggs. Feeding from pink hibiscus mealybug can cause twisted or distorted foliage. High populations may result in leaf drop.

Known Southeastern Distribution

Common Hosts
Over 200 known hosts occur, but the most common host detected to-date is Hibiscus. Pink hibiscus mealybug could be a problematic pest for some of major agronomic crops in the southeastern U.S. if established populations are nearby. Cotton, a close relative of hibiscus, is of particular concern.
Pink Hibiscus Mealybug
*Maconellicoccus hirsutus*

Bunchy Top
Pink Hibiscus Mealybug

**Field Recognition**
Body pink, about 3 mm long, no to few lateral (side) wax filaments, body fluid red to pink. Ovisacs are present covering pink to orange eggs. Feeding from pink hibiscus mealybug can cause twisted or distorted foliage. High populations may result in leaf drop.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**

**Common Hosts**
More than 200 known hosts occur, but the most common host detected to date is hibiscus. Pink hibiscus mealybug could be a problematic pest for some of major agronomic crops in the southeastern United States if established populations are nearby. Cotton, a close relative of hibiscus, is of particular concern.
Pink Hibiscus Mealybug
Maconellicoccus hirsutus

Droplet of Red Body Fluid
Pink Hibiscus Mealybug

Field Recognition
Body pink, about 3 mm long, no to few lateral (side) wax filaments, body fluid red to pink. Ovisacs are present covering pink to orange eggs. Feeding from pink hibiscus mealybug can cause twisted or distorted foliage. High populations may result in leaf drop.

Known Southeastern Distribution

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Pink Hibiscus Mealybug
*Maconellicoccus hirsutus*

White Wax on Abdomen
Pink Hibiscus Mealybug

Field Recognition
Body pink, about 3 mm long, no to few lateral (side) wax filaments, body fluid red to pink. Ovisacs are present covering pink to orange eggs. Feeding from pink hibiscus mealybug can cause twisted or distorted foliage. High populations may result in leaf drop.

Known Southeastern Distribution

Common Hosts
More than 200 known hosts occur, but the most common host detected to date is hibiscus. Pink hibiscus mealybug could be a problematic pest for some of major agronomic crops in the southeastern United States if established populations are nearby. Cotton, a close relative of hibiscus, is of particular concern.
Pink Hibiscus Mealybug
Maconellicoccus hirsutus

Eggs
**Paracoccus marginatus**

**Papaya Mealybug**

**Field Recognition**
Body yellow, 2-3 mm long, with many lateral (side) wax filaments. Ovisacs present with yellow to greenish yellow eggs. Wax pattern on body lacking any stripes on its upper surface (i.e., dorsum).

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
Established in Florida.

**Common Hosts**
*Jatropha, Hibiscus, and Plumeria.*
Papaya Mealybug
*Paracoccus marginatus*

Yellow Immatures
Paracoccus marginatus

Papaya Mealybug

Field Recognition
Body yellow, 2-3 mm long, with many lateral (side) wax filaments. Ovisacs present with yellow to greenish yellow eggs. Wax pattern on body lacking any stripes on its upper surface (i.e., dorsum).

Known Southeastern Distribution
Established in Florida.

Common Hosts
Jatropha, Hibiscus, and Plumeria.
Papaya Mealybug
Paracoccus marginatus
Field Recognition
Body gray underneath the waxy surface and with many lateral wax filaments. Body has two darker lengthwise strips on the body surface and size is about 3 mm long. Ovisacs present with yellow eggs.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Considered cosmopolitan in greenhouses and interior landscapes throughout the southeastern United States. Outdoor populations established in Florida.

Common Hosts
Wide host range, may vary in local areas but common on Croton, Coleus, and Hibiscus.
Madeira Mealybug
*Phenacoccus madeirensis*

- Lengthwise Dark Stripes
- Many Lateral Wax Filaments
**Solenopsis Mealybug**

**Field Recognition**
Body gray, about 4 mm long, with many lateral wax filaments. Ovisacs not present. Wax on top of body surface appears as a cottony mass, horizontal dark stripes at the tip of the end of the body (i.e., the abdomen opposite of the feeding mouthparts).

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
Florida and Mississippi.

**Common Hosts**
Most common on *Hibiscus* and other malvaceous hosts.
Solenopsis Mealybug

*Phenacoccus solenopsis*

Dark Stripes
**Field Recognition**
Body gray, about 4-5 mm long, without side (lateral) was filaments. Two “thick” wax filaments arising from tip of abdomen. Ovisacs not present. Two dark lengthwise stripes on top surface of body. Thin crystal-like filaments protruding from sides and top of body.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi.

**Common Hosts**
Wide host range, common on copper leaf (*Acalypha*), *Alternanthera*, silver buttonwood (*Conocarpus*), and *Hibiscus*.
Striped Mealybug

*Ferrisia virgata*

Crystal-Like Filaments

Two Filaments Protruding from Abdomen
**Field Recognition**

Body color light yellow to grayish yellow, about 3 mm long, with many side (lateral) filaments. Ovisacs present, eggs yellow. One centralized dark stripe on dorsum (top surface of body).

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**Known Southeastern Distribution**

Common on ornamental plants in interior landscapes and greenhouses. Does occur outdoors in Florida.

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**Common Hosts**

Wide host range, common on Citrus. SPECIAL NOTE: The Pacific mealybug (*Planococcus minor*) cannot be separated in field from citrus mealybug. There are no known populations of Pacific mealybug occurring in the United States. The Pacific mealybug is also known as the passionvine mealybug.
Citrus Mealybug
*Planococcus citri*
Longtailed Mealybug

Field Recognition
Body gray in adults, about 3 mm long, yellowish in immature stages, with many lateral wax filaments. Four long filaments arising from tip of abdomen, middle pair being very long. One centralized dark stripe located in center of abdomen. No ovisac.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Common species found in interiorscapes and greenhouses. Does occur outdoors in Florida.

Common Hosts
Wide host range, common on Sago palms in Florida.
Longtailed Mealybug

*Pseudococcus longispinus*

- Lengthwise Dark Stripes
- Four Anal Wax Filaments
**Field Recognition**
Body light orange to pink, about 3 mm long, with many lateral filaments. Two long filaments arising from tip of abdomen. Body fluids brownish. Ovisac present, but not entirely covering body.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
Not common, does occur outdoors in Florida.

**Common Hosts**
Polyphagous species, most common in Florida on tropical fruit.
Jack Beardsley Mealybug
*Pseudococcus jackbeardsleyi*

Two Anal Filaments
**Obscure Mealybug**

**Field Recognition**
Body pink to light purple, about 3 mm long, with many side (lateral) filaments. Very similar in appearance to Jack Beardsley mealybug, but body tends to be more pinkish. Body is oval. Two long anal filaments arising from the abdomen. No stripe on top surface of body. Eggs light colored, gray to yellow. Ovisac present, but not entirely covering body.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
Not common, occurs in Florida.

**Common Hosts**
Polyphagous species, common on cacti.
Obscure Mealybug
*Pseudococcus viburni*
**Field Recognition**

Body red to pink, about 3 mm long, without lateral filaments. Body fluids reddish. Oval to round-shaped body. No ovisac, but produces large amounts of wax. Feeding tends to cluster at nodal regions of plants.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**

Established in Florida.

**Common Hosts**

Literature reports that this mealybug can occur in cacti. However, in Florida the most common hosts are *Portulaca* and *Alternathera* species.
Hypogeococcus pungens

Adult Female
Dysmicoccus brevipes

Pineapple Mealybug

Field Recognition
Body gray, about 2-3 mm long, with many lateral wax filaments. No stripes on body. Occurs both above and below ground.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Florida and Louisiana.

Common Hosts
Polyphagous species, common in Florida on roots of many of the palms.
Pineapple Mealybug
*Dysmicoccus brevipes*
Acute Mealybug

Field Recognition
Body red to pink, about 3 mm long, without side (lateral) wax filaments. Generally found both underneath bark and on needles of hosts.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia.

Common Hosts
Restricted to the following pines: loblolly, longleaf, shortleaf, and Virginia pines.
Acute Mealybug
*Oracella acuta*
Noxious Bamboo Mealybug

Antonina pretiosa

Field Recognition
Adult body brown, about 2-3 mm long; immature stages (i.e., crawlers) yellow. Generally found at the nodal regions of various bamboos. Sooty mold occurring at the nodal regions and long wax filaments arising from nodal areas is a common symptom.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Common species, occurring throughout Southeastern region where bamboo is grown.

Common Hosts
Restricted to bamboos.
Noxious Bamboo Mealybug
*Antonina pretiosa*

Long Wax Filaments
Coconut Mealybug

Nipaecoccus nipae

Field Recognition
Body maroon to red, about 3 mm long, with few side (lateral) wax filaments. Dorsal wax filaments occurring. Body round to oval. No ovisac produced, males common.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Florida and Louisiana.

Common Hosts
Polyphagous species, most common on palms.
Coconut Mealybug
_Nipaecoccus nipae_
Coconut Mealybug

Field Recognition
Body maroon to red, about 3 mm long, with few side (lateral) wax filaments. Dorsal wax filaments occurring. Body round to oval. No ovisac produced, males common.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Florida and Louisiana.

Common Hosts
Polyphagous species, most common on palms.
Coconut Mealybug
*Nipaecoccus nipae*

Male Puparia
Coconut Mealybug

Field Recognition
Body maroon to red, about 3 mm long, with few side (lateral) wax filaments. Dorsal wax filaments occurring. Body round to oval. No ovisac produced, males common.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Florida and Louisiana.

Common Hosts
Polyphagous species, most common on palms.
Coconut Mealybug
*Nipaecoccus nipae*
Pink Sugarcane Mealybug

Saccharicoccus sacchari

**Field Recognition**
Body pink to red, about 4 mm long, body elongated and lacking lateral wax filaments. Usually found on stalks or beneath sheaths on blades of host plants.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
Established in Florida.

**Common Hosts**
Most commonly encountered on sugarcane but *Andropogon* and *Miscanthus* grasses also may be hosts.
Pink Sugarcane Mealybug
*Saccharicoccus sacchari*
Ground Mealybugs

Field Recognition
Very small mealybugs (1 to 2 mm in length), body white to yellowish white, lacking side (lateral) wax filaments. Roots with infestations of ground mealybugs generally have areas of white wax present and mealybugs may be visible with use of a hand lens.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Varies depending on species but many are common throughout the Southeastern region.

Common Hosts
Varies, but generally polyphagous. SPECIAL NOTE: There are many species within both Rhizoecus and Ripersiella. All may be considered pests and some may require quarantine actions. Expert identification is required.
Ground Mealybugs
*Rhizoeus & Ripersiella*
**Field Recognition**
Small mealybugs (2-3 mm long), red to purple. Lacking side (lateral) wax filaments. Two thick wax filaments arising from tip of abdomen.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
Not established in Southeastern region, but established in California.

**Common Hosts**
Commonly intercepted on bulb plants (lily bulb mealybug) and jade plants (short-legged mealybug).
Lily Bulb Mealybug
Vryburgia amaryllidis
Short-Legged Mealybug

Vryburgia brevicruris

Field Recognition
Small mealybugs (2-3 mm long), red to purple. Lacking side (lateral) wax filaments. Two thick wax filaments arising from tip of abdomen.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Not established in Southeastern region, but established in Arizona and California.

Common Hosts
Commonly intercepted on bulb plants (lily bulb mealybug) and jade plants (short-legged mealybug).
Short-Legged Mealybug
Vryburgia brevicruris
**Field Recognition**

Body gray with white wax, about 2-3 mm long, some wax seems to be filamentous. No lateral wax filaments produced.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**

Established in Florida.

**Common Hosts**

Most common host is fakahatchee and muhlygrass.
Field Recognition
Body gray with white wax, about 2-3 mm long, some wax seems to be filamentous. No lateral wax filaments produced.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Established in Florida.

Common Hosts
Most common host is fakahatchee and muhlygrass.
Stemmatomerinx acircula

- Wax Filaments
- Crawler
- Ovisac
- Body
Field Recognition
Body grayish pink, about 3 mm long, with large amounts of white wax visible on host plant. Body with few side (lateral) wax filaments. No ovisac produced. SPECIAL NOTE: This species is found underneath sheaths of bamboo. It can be a severe pest.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Established in Florida.

Common Hosts
Bamboo.
Palmicultor lumpurensis

- Adult
- Crawlers
**Field Recognition**
Body grayish pink, about 3 mm long, with large amounts of white wax visible on host plant. Body with few side (lateral) wax filaments. No ovisac produced. SPECIAL NOTE: This species is found underneath sheaths of bamboo. It can be a severe pest.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
Established in Florida.

**Common Hosts**
Bamboo.
Palmicultror lumpurensis

Infested Bamboo
Field Recognition
Body reddish brown to pink, about 3 mm long, with side (lateral) wax filaments. No ovisac produced.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Established in Florida.

Common Hosts
Various palms.
Palmiculutor browni
**Palmicultor browni**

**Field Recognition**
Body reddish brown to pink, about 3 mm long, with side (lateral) wax filaments. No ovisac produced.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
Established in Florida.

**Common Hosts**
Various palms.
Palmicultror browni
Field Recognition
Superficially resembles the cottony cushion scale. Body light orange to pink, legs black. Body may be covered with a white wax. Long ovisac produced (3-5x body length) and held erect to horizontal from body.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Established in Florida.

Common Hosts
Wide host range, commonly collected on legumes.
*Icerya genistae*
**Icerya genistae**

**Field Recognition**
Superficially resembles the cottony cushion scale. Body light orange to pink, legs black. Body may be covered with a white wax. Long ovisac produced (3-5x body length) and held erect to horizontal from body.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
Established in Florida.

**Common Hosts**
Wide host range, commonly collected on legumes.
Icerya genistae

Immatures
**Cottony Cushion Scale**

**Icerya purchasi**

**Field Recognition**
Body is orange with some white wax present on top side of body. Legs are black. Produces a grooved ovisac that is about the same size (or 2x) as the body and generally tapers down toward the host substrate.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
A common species. Distribution scattered throughout the Southeastern region at different periods.

**Common Hosts**
Polyphagous species, common on *Citrus* and *Pittosporum*.
Cottony Cushion Scale
*Icerya purchasi*

Ladybugs Feeding on Cottony Cushion Scale
Cottony Cushion Scale

*Icerya purchasi*

Field Recognition
Body is orange with some white wax present on top side of body. Legs are black. Produces a grooved ovisac that is about the same size (or 2x) as the body and generally tapers down toward the host substrate.

Known Southeastern Distribution
A common species. Distribution scattered throughout the Southeastern region at different periods.

Common Hosts
Polyphagous species, common on *Citrus* and *Pittosporum*. 
Cottony Cushion Scale

*Icerya purchasi*

**Immatures**
Pulvinaria acericola

**Cottony Maple Leaf Scale**

**Field Recognition**
Body light brown to yellowish brown with young adults, dark brown on older females. Body 2.5 - 4.5 mm long. Ovisac produced and generally found on underside of leaves.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

**Common Hosts**
Maples, hollies, and dogwoods.
Cottony Maple Leaf Scale

*Pulvinaria acericola*
Cottony Azalea Scale

Field Recognition
Body red to yellow and covered in glassy wax. Body 1.5 - 3.5 mm long. Ovisac produced and 2-4x as long as body.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Alabama, Florida, and Virginia.

Common Hosts
Azalea, lowbush blueberry and rusty lyonia.
Cottony Azalea Scale
Pulvinaria ericicola
Field Recognition
Adult female light green, body 2.0 - 4.5 mm long, ovisac produced and without noticeable grooves, approximately 3x length of body. Body color is usually green but may seem somewhat brown depending on the host plant.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi.

Common Hosts
Wide host range, common on *Pittosporum*, *Citrus*, *Ficus* species, and mango.
Green Shield Scale
*Pulvinaria psidii*

Ants Tending Scales for Honeydew

Ovisac
Pulvinaria urbicola

Urbicola Soft Scale

Field Recognition
Body of adult female brown to green, body 1.5 - 3.0 mm long, ovisac produced and without noticeable grooves, approximately 1.5 - 3x body length. Occurs on foliage but also near root line.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, and Texas.

Common Hosts
Common on seagrape, guava, and Alternanthera species.
Urbicola Soft Scale
*Pulvinaria urbicola*

Grooved Ovisac

Brown Body
Field Recognition
Large scale (3-6 mm long) with color pattern differing depending on host, often blending in with host bark. Ovisac produced, but grooves are usually not clearly visible. Ovisac 2x body length. Generally found on woody portions of host plant material.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Virginia.

Common Hosts
Polyphagous, common on dogwoods, maples and pecans.
Cottony Maple Scale
Neopulvinaria innumerabilis

Ovisac

Female Body
**Philephedra Scale**

**Field Recognition**
Large scale (3-6 mm long). Young females are green similar to green shield scale. Ovisacs are long (3-5x body length) and usually have a “wet” appearance.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
Florida and Texas.

**Common Hosts**
Wide host range but common on *Acalypha, Codiaeum*, and *Conocarpus* species.
Philephedra Scale
*Philephedra tuberculosa*

Ovisac
Philephedra Scale

Field Recognition
Large scale (3-6 mm long). Young females are green similar to green shield scale. Ovisacs are long (3-5x body length) and usually have a “wet” appearance.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Florida and Texas.

Common Hosts
Wide host range but common on Acalypha, Codiaeum, and Conocarpus species.
Philephedra Scale
*Philephedra tuberculosa*

Green Female Body

Immature Scales
Pyriform Scale

Field Recognition
Body varies from tan to green to brown. Body about 2.5 mm long, pyriform. Ovisac produced, small and located beneath the scale insect. Long triangular anal plates visible in middle of top surface of body. Found on foliage of hosts.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia.

Common Hosts
Wide host range, commonly found on Pittosporum, Ficus species, Schefflera, and tropical fruit.
Pyriform Scale
*Protopulvinaria pyriformis*

Ovisac

Triangular Anal Plates
Mango Shield Scale

Field Recognition
Very similar to that of pyriform scale, body yellowish green, body size 2 - 3.5 mm long, pyriform. Ovisac produced and located beneath adult female. Found on foliage of hosts.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Florida and Texas.

Common Hosts
Polyphagous species, commonly found on Citrus, Ficus, Gardenia, jasmine and tropical fruit.
Mango Shield Scale
*Milviscutulus mangiferae*
**Indian Wax Scale**

**Ceroplastes ceriferus**

**Field Recognition**
Body red, covered in a thick white wet wax, normally with an anterior projecting “horn.” Body size 3-12 mm long. Found on woody portions of host plants.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

**Common Hosts**
Wide host range, common on hollies, camellias, and magnolias.
**Fig Wax Scale**

**Ceroplastes ruscii**

**Field Recognition**
Similar in appearance to barnacle scale. Body red, covered in a thick pinkish white wax. Wax covering seems plated from lateral view. Body 2-3 mm long. Occurring on foliage and woody portions of host plant material.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
Florida.

**Common Hosts**
Wide host range, most commonly collected on *Ficus* species.
Fig Wax Scale
*Ceroplastes ruscii*

Plated Wax Cover
**Field Recognition**


**Known Southeastern Distribution**

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Texas.

**Common Hosts**

Wide host range, common on *Ficus* species, *Pittosporum*, hollies and *Citrus*. 
Barnacle Scale
*Ceroplastes cirripediformis*

Maroon Immature Stages
Duges Wax Scale

Field Recognition
Body red, covered in thick grayish white to buff colored wax cover. Body 3-8 mm long. Found on woody portions of host plants.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Florida.

Common Hosts
Wide host range, common on Bursera and Piper species.
Duges Wax Scale
*Ceroplastes dugesii*
Florida Wax Scale

Field Recognition
Body red, covered in a thick grayish to pinkish white wax. Generally flat. Body 2-4 mm long. Immatures often resemble small white stars. Found on twigs and foliage of hosts.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia.

Common Hosts
Wide host range, common on hollies, Schefflera, Pittosporum, cycads, Citrus, and tropical fruit.
Florida Wax Scale
*Ceroplastes floridensis*

**Adult Female**

**Immatures**
Red Wax Scale

Field Recognition
Body red, covered in a thick red to pink wax. Body 2 mm long. Wax pentagonal in dorsal view. Occurring on foliage of host plants.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Florida.

Common Hosts
Wide host range, common on Citrus and other tropical fruit.
Red Wax Scale
*Ceroplastes rubens*
Eriococcus azaleae

Azalea Bark Scale

**Field Recognition**
Body dark red to purple. Eggs and immature crawler stages pink. Body approximately 3-4 mm long, ovisac produced and is a shiny white (almost silvery). Generally found in nodal areas or “forks” of twigs and branches.

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

**Common Hosts**
Wide host range but most commonly collected on *Azalea*. 
Azalea Bark Scale
*Eriococcus azaleae*
Azalea Bark Scale

Eriococcus azaleae

Field Recognition
Body dark red to purple in color. Eggs and immature crawler stages pink. Body approximately 3-4 mm long, ovisac produced and is a shiny white (almost silvery). Generally found in nodal areas or “forks” of twigs and branches.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

Common Hosts
Wide host range but most commonly collected on Azalea.
Azalea Bark Scale
*Eriococcus azaleae*

- Adult Female
- Pink Immatures
- Adult Female
**Field Recognition**
Body is dark red to purple. Body approximately 3-4 mm long, ovisac produced and is a shiny white (almost silvery).

**Known Southeastern Distribution**
Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, and Virginia.

**Common Hosts**
Oaks.
Oak Eriococcin

Eriococcus quercus
California Cochineal Scale

Field Recognition
Body maroon to purple, covered with sticky-stringy wax. Body fluids red. Found on pads of cacti.

Known Southeastern Distribution
Florida, Georgia, and Texas.

Common Hosts
*Opuntia* cacti.
California Cochineal Scale
*Dactylopius confusus*