

HOME GROUNDS FACT SHEET



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Nassau County



Horticulture Center
Demonstration & Community Gardens
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Juniper Scale

Carulaspis juniperi

The foliage of Junipers, particularly Pfitzers, often becomes pale and unthrifty due to injury by a tiny, circular, grayish-white scale that becomes abundant on the needles and twigs. The tiny scale insects, under their waxy scale covering, puncture the plant tissues and suck out the juices.

The insects pass the winter nearly full-grown and mature in the spring. A new brood of young appears at the end of May. There are two generations a year.

Management Options

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Considerations

IPM is a common sense approach to pest control and plant care. It employs a number of measures to prevent, control or reduce plant problems. These include using resistant plant varieties, proper plant selection and placement, good aftercare and biological and/or mechanical controls. As a last resort, after all other remedies have been explored, a pesticide* that is least toxic to people and natural predators, can be considered. Prior to using any pesticides, plants should always be monitored for the degree of infestation and a sensible control measure considered.

* A pesticide is a substance that kills, or attempts to kill, a particular pest, e.g. **insecticide**, **fungicide**, **herbicide**, etc.

Control

The Juniper scale can be controlled either by an application of horticultural oil in early April, or a late spring-early summer spray.

Dormant oil spray

Apply horticultural oil in early April, before new growth starts, when temperature is over 40°F. Treat from 22-148 GDD* or when pussy willow is in bloom.

Spring and summer spray

Chemical pesticides may be available. If you choose to use a chemical pesticide, contact your local Cooperative Extension office for specific recommendations. Apply from 707-1260 GDD* when mock orange (*Philadelphus*) is in bloom.

* See *Home Grounds Fact Sheet E-1-0* for explanation of GDD - Growing Degree Days.

Do not use a hose-end sprayer!

Hose-end sprayers do not dissolve, mix or apply pesticides accurately or evenly. The changing rates of water pressure, different hose diameters and water temperature provide variables that prevent accurate mixing and delivery. A hand-pump or powered tank sprayer, where the pesticide is pre-mixed to the proper dilution, allows for the application of a known mixture as per label instructions.

WHENEVER YOU USE A PESTICIDE,
ALWAYS READ THE LABEL AND FOLLOW
THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS
AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

"This publication contains pesticide recommendations. Changes in pesticide regulations occur constantly and human errors are still possible. Some materials mentioned may no longer be available, and some uses may no longer be legal. All pesticides distributed, sold or applied in New York State must be registered with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Questions concerning the legality and/or registration status for pesticide use in New York State should be directed to the appropriate Cornell Cooperative Extension specialist or your regional DEC office (631) 444-0341. Read the label before applying any pesticide. Cornell Cooperative Extension and its employees assume no liability for the effectiveness or results of any chemicals for pesticide usage. No endorsement of products is made or implied."

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