

## Pest Profile



Photo Credit: J.A.Davidson, Univ.Md, College Pk, Bugwood.org

**Common Name:** European fruit lecanium scale

**Scientific Name:** *Parthenolecanium corni*

**Order and Family:** Hemiptera, Coccidae

**Size and Appearance:**

	Length (mm)	Appearance
<b>Egg</b>		Oval and pearly white; several hundred are laid under female shell.
<b>Larva/Nymph</b>	Female: 1.6 mm diameter Male: 1 <sup>st</sup> – 0.5mm length, 2 <sup>nd</sup> – 0.9 mm	Light brown, more flattened than mature females.
<b>Adult</b>	Female: 3-6.5 mm in length, 2-4 mm in width, 4 mm in height Male: 1.7 mm in length	Female: domed shell is shiny brown and smooth with distinct carina. Body and carina have lateral rows of punctures
<b>Pupa (if applicable)</b>		

**Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.):** Sucking (suctorial)

**Host plant/s:** Maple, crabapple, cherry, pear, redbud, poplar, elm, willow, and oak are all host trees. European fruit lecanium most often attacks stone fruits but may damage pome fruits and many broad-leaved plants. It is a common pest of landscape plants as well as commercial fruit trees.

**Description of Damage (larvae and adults):** This insect is a soft scale that feeds on the phloem of small branches and leaves. This causes the leaves to turn yellow and drop. Under sustained outbreaks, it can cause decline, poor fruit size and dieback, but often it is under a high level of natural control that largely prevents significant injury. European fruit lecanium is also capable of producing large amounts of honeydew, which can be a serious nuisance problem and favors the growth of sooty mold. This causes

blackened areas on leaves and fruit. Most honeydew is produced in late spring when nymphs are large and feed heavily on 1-year-old wood.

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