

INSECTS OF ORNAMENTAL PLANTS

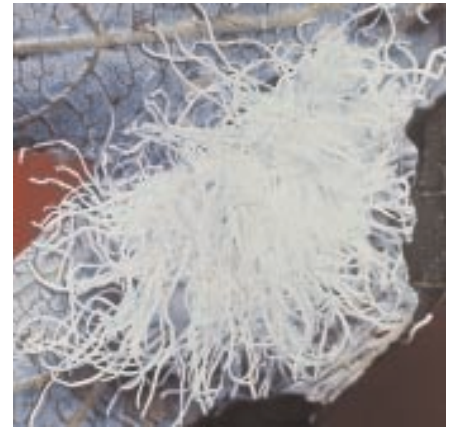
An Aid to Identification and Control



1. BOXELDER BUG



2. COTTONY CUSHION SCALE



3. MAPLE LEAF APHID OR WOOLLY ALDER APHID



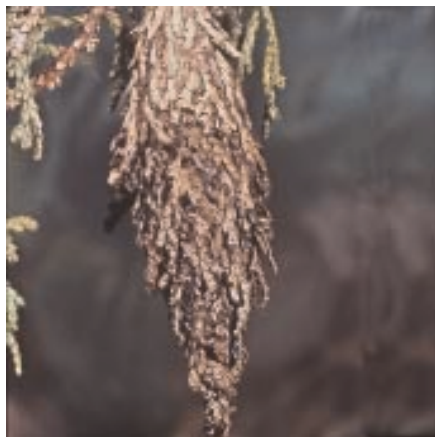
4. EUONYMUS SCALE



5. MEALYBUG ON COLEUS



6. COMSTOCK MEALYBUG



7. BAGWORM



8. PLANT HOPPER
Ormenis septentrionalis
(Spinola)



9. BOXWOOD LEAF MINER

Photo Description And Life History Information

1. Boxelder Bug. A pest of boxelder when grown as a shade tree. Adults are brownish-black with three red stripes on thorax. Veins of the wings are red. Insects are more or less flat and oval and around one-half inch in length. Boxelder Bugs feed on the female flowers, fruits, foliage, and twigs of ash and several other species of plants.

They are regarded as a household as well as an out-door pest as they swarm inside during late fall.

2. Cottony Cushion Scale. Infests many plants including pittosporum and many others. Plants may be completely covered with white cushions. Note the sooty mold growing in the honey dew on the plants. Young larvae or crawlers are red with dark legs and antennae and long hairs at the end of their body. Insects may crawl about until egg sack is formed.

3. Maple Leaf Aphid or Woolly Alder Aphid. Maple is considered the primary host and alder the secondary host of this insect. Aphid migrates from alder to maple, mates, and lays eggs on bark. Eggs hatch in spring and produce winged aphids which fly to alder where the insects spend the summer.

4. Euonymus Scale. Host usually euonymus but may infest other plants. Females are dark brown about one-sixteenth inch long and are shaped like oyster shells. Males are elongate and are pure white. Several generations may occur each season.

5. Mealybug on Coleus. Scale insects and mealybugs are related, and they are really soft scales with small segmented bodies covered with white powdery wax. Filaments extend beyond the body, and some species which have longer filaments are called long-tailed mealybugs.

Most mealybugs are house or greenhouse pests and have similar life histories. Eggs number 300 to 600 in number and are laid in a small waxy sack near the rear end of the body. These egg sacks are

located in the axils of leaves on house plants. They hatch in about 10 days and then cover the entire plant.

6. Comstock Mealybug. Feeds on wide range of host plants, including apple, boxwood, magnolia, and umbrella catalpa. This is one of the species with two long filaments on the body.

7. Bagworm. Commonly called evergreen bagworm. Usually a pest of arborvitae and cedar in South Carolina, but sycamore and other plants may be infested in the North. Eggs overwinter in the bag; larvae hatch in the spring about mid-May. They immediately make new cases and feed and move about freely within the bag. They molt about four times and then fasten bag to twig with silken thread. The last summer male moth flies to mate with a female, which then lays 500 to 1,800 eggs in the pupal case. One generation occurs each season.

8. Plant Hopper. *Ormenis septentrionalis* (Spinola).

Common on shrubs and woody vines as well as boxwood, hawthorn, and many other ornamental plants. Tree trunks and branches are covered with white fluffy strands concealing the young nymphs. Note the immature nymph and its prominent eyes. Adults are around during late June, July, and August and have bluish-green wings. This insect is not considered very injurious. It produces only one generation each season.

9. Boxwood Leaf Miner. Not as much of a problem in the upper Piedmont as in more northern states. Mines are blisters in which orange maggots feed. One generation is produced each season. Pupation occurs within the mines and the fly adult emerges, leaving pupal skins attached to holes in leaves. The fly lays her eggs through the upper epidermis of a new leaf and dies within about 24 hours. Infested plants are usually not killed but may have a sickly appearance.

CLEMSON
E X T E N S I O N