





Technical Bulletin for: Grape Mealybug

Pseudococcus maritimus (Ehrhorn) • Hemiptera: Pseudococcidae • PSEMAR



DISTRIBUTION	Found throughout the Mediterranean region, South Africa, parts of Asia and Mexico. Now also found in California.
HOSTS	Grape, citrus
DESCRIPTION	
Adult Moth	Female, unarmored, flattened, oval dark orange or pink body covered in a mealy white wax coating. Length about 3/16 in. (5 mm). Check USDA to learn how <i>maritimus</i> differs from Obscure Mealybug <i>P. viburni</i> (Maskell). One method of distinguishing between them is to poke a female with a sharp point without puncturing the body. <i>Maritimus</i> will secrete a reddish orange defensive fluid. <i>Viburni</i> secretes clear fluid.
Larvae	Yellow to orange-brown crawlers.
Eggs	Oviparous, yellowish-white to orange, within an egg sac under loose bark or in the upper portions of the trunk.
LIFE HISTORY	Two generations per year and overwinters as an egg or crawler. In spring most grape mealybug crawlers move toward the base of spurs and then onto expanding green shoots, reaching maturity in mid-May to early June. Most females return to old wood to lay eggs that hatch from mid-June to July. First generation crawlers then move out to the green portions of the vine to feed on fruit and foliage in late June or early July; immature mealybug are mostly seen through July. Adult females will appear in late summer and early fall. The majority of the females return to the old wood to lay the overwintering eggs.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	(R,R)-trans-(3,4,5,5-Tetramethylcyclopent-2-en-1-yl)-methyl 2-methylpropanoate on a gray rubber septum. Lure longevity: Four (4) weeks.	
TRAP TO USE	Paper or Plastic Delta	
MONITORING STRATEGY	Researchers recommend that one trap be placed in every 30 acres. Attach traps to the trellis wires so that they are in the cluster area. Label the trap with the block name and row number of its location and the dates it remains in the vineyard. Check traps for the presence of male grape mealybug every 2 weeks through November. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations	
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	California researchers recommend that one trap be placed in every 30 acres. Attach traps to the trellis wires so that they are in the cluster area. Check traps for the presence of male Grape Mealybug every 2 weeks through November. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations	

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