BIOLOGY OF THE FLORIDA RED SCALE IN FLORIDA

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DISTRIBUTION

The Florida red scale is widely distributed over the world, especially
in tropical and subtropical regions. In the United States it has been found
in practically every State, but in the Northern States it occurs chiefly
on plants in greenhouses. In Florida, where it is the most abundant and
destructive, the distribution is general over the State, but the heaviest
infestations occur along the lower east coast, where the temperatures are
most favorable for continuous development. In the northern part of the
State, where citrus trees are occasionally defoliated by freezes, it is not
so abundant, and when a tree is defoliated, infestations may be practically
eliminated.

HISTORY OF THE SPECIES IN FLORIDA

The Florida red scale (Chrysomphalus aonidum (L.)) was
first described in 1758 by Linné (5) under the name Coccus
aonidum from specimens collected in India. He gave
nondeciduous trees as hosts and mentioned Camellia specifically. In
1879 Ashmead (1) received citrus leaves infested with the Flor-
ida red scale in a letter from Orlando, Fla. He sent some of
these to C. V. Riley, then entomologist of the Department of
Agriculture in Washington, who gave the manuscript name
Chrysomphalus ficus to the species, and informed Ashmead that
the insect had been collected previously from Ficus nitida, now
F. retusa, but that he had published no description of it. Ash-

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