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FOREST ENTOMOLOGY II.

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## Brief Information on

## COTTONY MAPLE SCALE and ITS CONTROL.

**Character and Extent of Injury.**

The cottony maple scale attacks a great variety of trees and vines. Its food consists of sap obtained by sucking from within the plant tissues. Occasionally the insect appears in great numbers when it seems to injure shade and other trees materially.

**Seasonal History.**

This scale insect, even when present in great numbers, remains unnoticed until about June when, at about the latitude of Washington, D.C., it is rendered strikingly conspicuous by the large, white, cottony egg mass which appears at that time at the end of the body of the female insects. The eggs hatch in early summer, though sometimes this hatching extends into August, and the young settle upon the twigs and underside of leaves. In the fall the females migrate to the twigs, where they remain unchanged through the winter, rapidly swelling in the spring and forming the egg mass in early summer. It thus produces but one generation annually.

**Natural Control.**

Fortunately it is subject to destruction by a large variety of predaceous and parasitic insects, which annually check it quite promptly, so that it is rarely injurious in two consecutive years. The sudden appearance of the pest is due to weather or other conditions unfavorable to its enemies. As soon as such conditions pass away, the pest disappears.

**Remedies.**

Remedies are rarely necessary. Where occasion arises for their use, a spray of dilute (summer strength) kerosene soap emulsion during the hatching of the eggs (June and July) is certain to prove effective. The method of preparing and applying this substance is given in the accompanying Brief.

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