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## Pine needle scale

*Chionaspis pinifoliae*

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**Hosts:** Pine and spruce.

It overwinters in the egg stage under the scale covering; there may be two generations. Eggs and first instar crawlers are red; later instars are yellow. Look for the first crawler stage as Vanhoutte spirea or common lilac are in bloom.

Second generation crawlers are present during bloom of *Hydrangea arborea* 'Grandiflora' or 'Annabelle'. Branches infested with pine needle scale may turn yellow and have poor growth. Heavily encrusted branches may appear stunted.

**Management:** Several small wasps feed on pine needle scale. Spray infested branches with a horticultural oil when crawlers emerge in mid-May (spirea or lilac bloom). Dead scales will remain on needles for a year or longer.

3mm ■

Pine needle scales, 3 mm long.

