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Home

About Us

Search

Newsletters

Weather / Climate

Viticulture

Pest management

Scouting guide

Publications

Calendar of events

Industry links

Contacts

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Grape mealybug

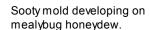
Rufus Isaacs, MSU Entomology

Home > Scouting guide> grape mealybug

Mealybugs are a sporadic pest of grapes in the eastern United States. Adults are soft, oval, flat, distinctly segmented and covered with a waxy layer that extends into spines along the body margin and the posterior end. The pinkish body is visible through the powdery wax. Mealybugs are most commonly found in the crevices of the wood or on berries near the trunk. They may be tended by ants that feed on honeydew.

Mealybug damage is primarily cosmetic and occurs when honeydew produced by the feeding insects drops onto nearby leaves and fruit. The honeydew acts as a growth medium for sooty molds that can spoil fruit quality.







Adult female with an ant. 3 mm.

Additional information

- Search MSU Extension News for Agriculture site
- Search MSU Fruit CAT Alert newsletter for articles. Type in keyword: grape mealybug
- Grape Mealybug fact sheet by Mark Longstroth.
- Recommendations from the Michigan Fruit Management Guide

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