



Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

<https://apps.lucidcentral.org/ppp/>

Cassava white peach scale (052)



Photo 1. Large number (dead) of male scales, *Pseudaulacaspis pentagona*, on paper mulberry, *Broussonetia papyrifera*.



Photo 2. Female scale, *Pseudaulacaspis pentagona*, on cassava.



Photo 3. Infestation of male scales, *Pseudaulacaspis pentagona*, on bele, *Abelmoschus manihot*.



Photo 4. Male (stem to left) and female (stem to right) scales, *Pseudaulacaspis pentagona*, on bele, *Abelmoschus manihot*.

Summary

- Worldwide distribution. On *bele*, chilli, capsicum, cassava, passionfruit, and paper mulberry (*Broussonetia* sp.). An important pest.
- Scale with tube-like mouthparts sucking sap from stems. Covered by a protective shell, the “armour”: round in females, white and long in males.
- Eggs hatch as “crawlers” that walk or are spread by wind. Both sexes settle down, feed and produce the armour, but males become winged, tiny, mosquito-like insects without mouths that mate and then die.
- Natural enemies: many predators, and parasitoid wasps.
- Cultural control: scale-free cuttings; avoid planting near old crop; collect and burn infested stems during growth and after harvest.
- Chemical control: use soap, white or horticultural oils with or without malathion. Malathion likely to kill natural enemies.

Common Name

White peach scale, mulberry scale

Scientific Name

Pseudaulacaspis pentagona

AUTHORS Helen Tsatsia & Grahame Jackson

Information from Waterhouse DF, Norris KR (1987) *Biological Control Pacific Prospects*. Inkata Press. Assistance. Photos 2&4 Graham Teakle, Canberra.

Produced with support from the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research under project PC/2010/090: *Strengthening integrated crop management research in the Pacific Islands in support of sustainable intensification of high-value crop production*, implemented by the University of Queensland and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community.

This mini fact sheet is a part of the app *Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds*

The mobile application is available from the Google Play Store and Apple iTunes.



Copyright © 2020. All rights reserved.