DON’T FORGET YOUR DORMANT OIL

In this photograph you can see where the female scale has settled down to feed. The scale is the whitish spot in the middle of the red dot. Damage is very superficial, but it can make the fruit unmarketable.

Just because you have not seen san jose scale in your orchard recently, don’t be fooled into thinking that this pest is completely under control. Scale damage, like you see in this photograph, can occur very rapidly during the growing season on peaches and apples. Summer insecticides are ineffective unless they are timed when the crawlers (young scales) emerge. The most effective way to control scales is with a dormant oil application.