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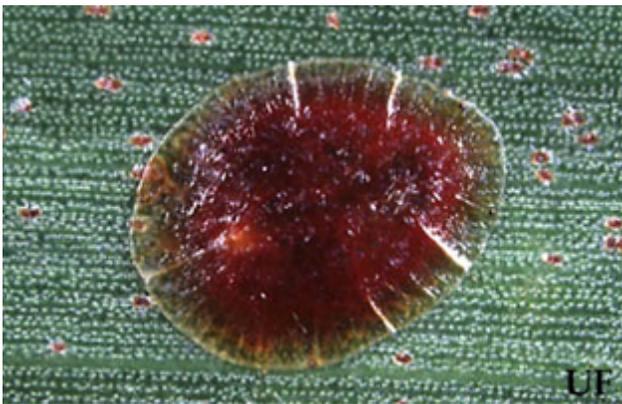
## TESSELLATED SCALE

**SCIENTIFIC NAME:** *Eucalmnatus tessellatus* (Signoret)

**CLASS:** Insecta

**ORDER:** Hemiptera

**FAMILY:** Coccidae



**Tessellated Scale**

From: [Universit of Florida](#)

## DESCRIPTION

**Adult Females:** Living adult females are flattened, reddish brown to dark brown, and 4-5 millimeters in length. The bod is usuall somewhat oval in outline, with the anterior end angulate and the posterior broadl rounded, but the shape ma change due to position on the plant. When viewed under a hand lens or magnifying glass, the dorsal surface of the bod has a checkered or cellular pattern, divided b a smooth longitudinal median ridge.

**Crawlers:** Tessellated scale crawlers are reddish brown, flat, elongate oval, and widest in the middle area of the bod.

**Nmphs:** Settled nmphs are light golden in color, flat, oval, and adhering so closel to the leaf surfaces as to be nearl transparent. Males are unknown.

## BIOLOGY

**Host Plants:** Tessellated scale occurs most commonl on palms and several species of *Ficus*, but it has been found on a wide variet of host plants.

**Damage:** Tessellated scale is primaril a leaf-infesting soft scale and a greenhouse pest. Heav infestations weaken the plant but seldom kill it. Infestations are often of economic importance in commercial nurseries

whenever pest management programs are neglected.

**Life Cycle:** One or two generations per year, and in greenhouses generations will overlap. Tesselated scale is parthenogenetic and ovoviviparous, giving birth to living young. Males are unknown.

## MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

**Biological Control:** The parasitic wasp *Metaphycus stanleyi* Compere is a natural enemy of tessellated scale.

**Pesticides:** As with other scale insects, tessellated scale is best controlled in the immature stage. For specific chemical control recommendations, consult the [Cooperative Extension Service](#).

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College of Food, Agricultural  
and Natural Resource Sciences  
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