

Signs and Treating Scale on Monstera

If you have scales, they are probably soft scales rather than armored ones on Monstera. These pests eat plant fluids, which results in spots. Additionally, they create honeydew, which leads to sooty mold. Additionally, a severe infestation will result in problems such as wilting, yellowing leaves, and falling off.

Learn how to quickly spot scales on Monstera, whether it be *Monstera deliciosa*, *Monstera adansonii*, *Monstera standleyana*, or any other species you may have.

Learn how easily identify [Scale on Monstera](#), including on your *Monstera deliciosa*, *adansonii*, *standleyana*, or any other species you have.



Identification

Scales are tiny (1/16 to 1/2 inch), sap-sucking insects that are members of several families in the Coccoidea superfamily and Hemiptera order. They have fluffy or shell-like bodies that are flat or dome-shaped (bump-like).

Following their crawling period, these insects typically attach them to a selected spot. But in a few species, the males can move. Additionally, because they lack mouthparts, males cannot feed and resemble gnats.

It's important to remember that these insects adore warmth and humidity. Thus, they will anticipate seeing them outside in the spring and summer. They may be present at any time indoors.

Scales come in two varieties:

1. Protective scales

Smaller (1/16 to 1/8 inches long), shell-like scale armor is secreted from armored scales' bodies. They come in a wide range of hues, have different shapes (circular, elongated, or elliptical), and seem flattened, not elevated or brumby.

Their bodies are either yellow or orange behind the shell, and they have invisible legs and antennae.

They may appear as dots and are typically stationary on lower leaf surfaces. However, you can also locate them on stems, leaf joints, or any other concealed region, and they are immobile, not moving.

Not only that. Except for orchids, armored scales are not a common problem in houseplants. As a result, many people frequently ignore them.

The Oystershell, Euonymus, Pine Needle, and San Jose scales are a few of the armored scales.

Read more: [4 Quick Steps to Get Rid of Scale on Monstera](#)

2. Soft scale

Soft scales are oval to circular, slightly longer (1/8 to 1/4 inch), raised, bumpy, or dome-shaped. Their bodies don't have a shell-like coating, unlike armored scales. Instead, they secrete waxy substances that give their bodies a fluffy appearance.

They come in a variety of hues and most resemble small tortoise shells. However, they appear a little light when young. They darken as they get older.

Again, they don't entirely lose their legs or antennae like armored scales do. Yet they are diminished. Even if they can, most adults hardly ever move.

The most frequent scales you'll probably notice on your Monstera are soft scales, particularly the soft brown scale. Others, such as the cottony maple, European elm,

Fletcher, hemispherical, Lecanium, and magnolia scale, prey on plants. You can infer from their name which plants they target.

Read more: [How to Treat Monstera Sunburn?](#)

Lifecycle of a scale

Egg, crawlers (immature), and adults are the three phases of its life cycle. About 600 to 800 eggs are laid by the females, and they hatch after a few days.

The newly hatched crawlers have six legs, are extremely active, and lack any protective coverings. They are small (pinhead size). They are the ones that insecticides can kill the quickest.

Symptoms of damage from scale on monstera

In Monstera and other indoor plants, soft scales, particularly hemispherical and brown scales, are most common. They sip plant liquids using their mouthparts. Cell tissues are harmed by this. Others even inject poisons.

The symptoms will vary according to the level of infestation. Damage is among some of them.

On the undersides of the leaves, the stems, and other plant parts, there are tiny brown spots.

Read more: [10 Ways To Prevent Monstera Sunburn](#)

Bee, ant, and wasp-attractive honeydew

- Moldy smog
- speckled yellow leaves
- Wilting of leaves
- falling leaves
- slower growth

Managing or treating scaling on Monstera

Scale insects can be managed or treated in a number of ways, including:

- Plants with scale insects should be quarantined right away to prevent the spread of the disease.

- Your plants should be washed or hosed down if you have a mild infestation. Check the stems, bottom, and midrib of the leaves as you go. Additionally, a toothbrush with soft bristles can be used to remove them.
- 70% rubbing alcohol: Dip a cotton ball into this solution and clean the leaves with it.
- Spraying insecticidal soap on indoor plants may help eliminate scales. However, you will want adequate protection and numerous treatments, repeating the process every 6 to 7 days until they are gone.

Neem oil: Because it includes azadirachtin, it will suffocate and poison fragile scales.

- Horticultural oils can help destroy these pests, just like insecticidal soaps. Use one for indoor plants and make sure to cover the area completely each time. All of these bugs, even the adults, will be suffocated.
- Regarding specific brands, here is what we have used and found to be satisfactory:
- Neem Oil, Bonide Ready to Use - Its three-in-one composition may eliminate either adult insects or insect eggs. It will also aid in mite and mildew management.

It has chosen fatty acids (soaps) that efficiently kill aphids, mealybugs, aphids, mites, scale insects, thrips, etc. Garden Safe Brand Insecticidal Soap Insect Killer:

- It manages pests like powdery mildew, grease spots, botrytis, rust, and mites, aphids, thrips, scale insects, among others. Bonide All Seasons Horticultural and Dormant Spray Oil, Insecticide

Exterior command

In addition to the approaches mentioned above. Here are some other outdoor pest control strategies, especially for areas with nurseries:

- Use parasitic scale predators: If you're working outside, think about using predators from nature, such as parasitic wasps, army beetles, and lady beetles. When these natural predators are present, avoid using insecticides.
- Pesticides that are absorbed into plant tissues are known as systemic pesticides. Thus, as soon as they consume the sap, these bugs will perish.

Read more: [How to Make Monstera Leaves unfurling - The Easy Way!](#)

How to keep scale insects at bay

If you move your Monstera outside, bring in an infected plant, or even leave a window open, crawlers can infiltrate your house and infect your Monstera with scale insects.

Here are some techniques to prevent:

- Any new plants should be examined, and any with these bugs or other pests should be isolated. Be thorough because these pests can readily disappear into their surroundings.
- Take good care of and water your plants. Your plant experiences less stress as a result, making it less susceptible to these pests.