



ARBORSCAPES

Tree Management • Plant Health Care
Construction Preservation

Cottony Camellia Scale

The adult Cottony Camellia Scale females lay cottony white egg masses on the underside of leaves in early summer. The eggs hatch and the crawlers (small, mobile immatures) feed on the lower leaf surfaces. These scale insects feed on plant sap, which can eventually weaken the plant causing leaf-drop and occasionally the death of entire limbs. The excretion of the scale insects can also encourage growth of sooty mold, which impairs the vigor of the plant, making it susceptible to other infestations and diseases.



Cottony Camellia Scale on Holly

Treatment

The insects must be targeted in their crawler phase (which usually occurs in the early summer) for effective control. Treatment can be done by either spraying the plant with insecticide, or systemic treatments can be implemented earlier in the year as a preventative method.