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## Oystershell scale

*Lapidosaphes ulmi*

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This armored scale has two forms (lilac and apple) that attack numerous hosts, including ash, lilac, maple, willow, crabapple, linden, elm and others. It overwinters as eggs, which hatch in mid-May, when black cherry or blackhaw viburnum are in full bloom.



No honeydew is produced.

Symptoms of oystershell scale include dieback of branches and twigs, yellowed or undersized foliage and an unthrifty appearance, as shown on this Carolina silverbell.

Scales with exit holes caused by emerging parasitic wasps.



## Oystershell scale - *continued*

**Management:** Target first generation crawlers with insecticides or oil. The first generation of crawlers should have emerged by the time *Spirea x vanhouttei* is in full bloom, in mid- to late May. There is one generation of the lilac form and two of the apple form per year. Twice-stabbed lady beetles and parasitic wasps are natural enemies of oystershell scale.

3mm ■

Brown-to-grayish oystershell shaped scales, about 3 mm long, form a crust on the bark.

