

PEST MANAGEMENT: INSECTS



CropHealth Advising & Research
Kelowna Canada www.crophealth.com

Insects are usually visible with their damage

If insects are found next to plant damage, the insects are likely the cause.
The presence of insects may also indicate a plant stress (nutrition or watering).



Aphids

This is the most common insect of landscape plants in the region. They feed on plant fluids and may cause distortion of plant growth.



Aphids secretions create a sticky surface

The secretion is sugary water from the sap, also called honeydew. It is harmless to the plant but it is messy and it attracts ants to the plant.



Management of an aphid problem

Use a strong jet of water to remove aphids when visible on plant parts.

The predator *Aphidoletes* is available commercially and effective in shrub beds.



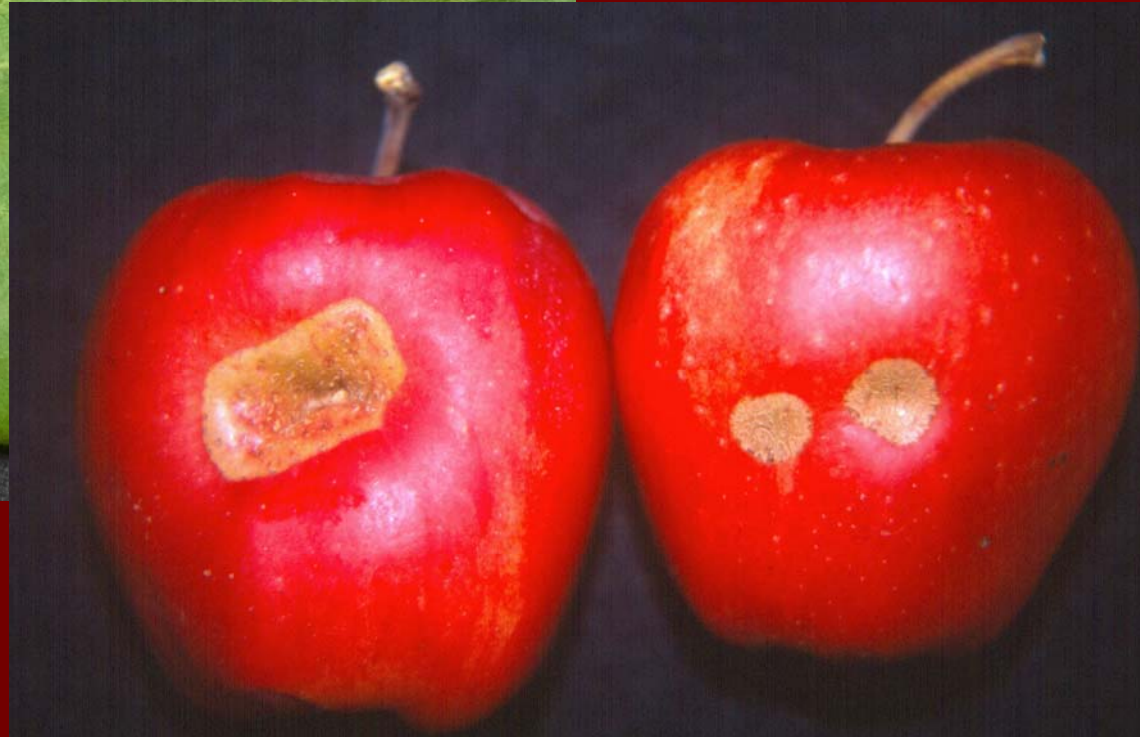
Caterpillars

Many different species feed on ornamental plants and fruit trees.
Shown on this page is a leafroller and tent caterpillars.



Caterpillars chew on plant parts

Leaves will show brown areas, missing parts or debris left by the caterpillar. Caterpillars may feed on young fruit, which show scars as they become large.



Management of caterpillars

Prune out the affected part and dispose in garbage.

For a large infestation, spray with a soft insecticide such as *B.t.k.* or Success.



Scale

This insect secretes a hard cap under which it hides to feed on the plant. Scales are usually seen on plants under stress from poor soil or drought.



Management of scale

Scale is usually controlled by parasitic wasps, visible as large holes in the cap.
For a large infestation, spray insecticidal soap against crawlers in early July.

