

## Esteem or Knack for Scale at Early Pink

by: Dan Horton, David Jenkins & Frank Funderburk, University of Georgia



Pink bud stage of southeastern peach trees



San Jose scale (orange bodies with whitish caps pulled back) underneath bud.

Scale, San Jose or white peach, can be extremely difficult to control. In some cases the standard recommendation of 2 dormant superior oil applications just isn't enough to clean up blocks with truly persistent scale infestations.

In blocks that still have more than 1 to 2% live scale, we strongly recommend application of 1-1.5% superior oil plus pyriproxyfen (Esteem or Knack). Esteem and oil have been tested in the Southeast and found quite reliable when applied during the pink-bud stage, from first pink (1.5% superior oil) to early elongation of pink (1% superior oil). Reduce the oil to 1% if temperatures are going below 28 F.

Thorough coverage is very important, we recommend 125 gallons per acre or 4 sprayed acres to the 500 gallon tank. Two pyriproxyfen formulations are legal and available for GA peaches:

- 4.5 oz Esteem 35 WP/A, i.e., 16-20 oz Esteem 35 WP per 4 acre tank (Esteem 35 WP is labeled nation-wide on stone fruit.)
- 13-16 fl oz Knack 0.86 EC, i.e., 52-64 fl oz Knack 0.86 EC per 4 acre tank (Knack 0.86 has a supplemental label for select FL & GA fruits & vegetables, including stone fruit.)

It's probably also worthwhile to note that Esteem 0.86 EC is not labeled for use on southeastern peaches.

The 4 oz Esteem 35 WP rate has performed very well in southeastern testing. It would be adequate for most, though perhaps not all-remaining scale infested blocks.

For more information about peach scale, contact your local extension agent or David Jenkins at [djenkins@bugs.ent.uga.edu](mailto:djenkins@bugs.ent.uga.edu) or 478-956-6457.