San José Scale (Aspidiotus perniciosus).—The San José Scale is readily distinguished by the characteristic shape of the female scales. They are round and nearly white, with generally a clearly-defined central nipple. After the first moult the scales become almost black, with a conspicuous depressed ring around the nipple. The adult male scale is oblong in outline, with the nipple near one end, and is much smaller than the female.

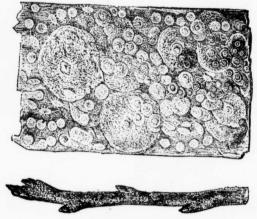


Fig. 32.-San José Scale.

The following points will clearly separate the San José Scale from the Oyster-shell Bark-louse and the Scurfy Scale:

First: The arrangement or grouping of San José Scales on the bark is generally characteristic, and is often sufficient to at once identify them. They seldom have a tendency to cluster, if there be few in number, but, instead, are scattered somewhat evenly on the bark.

On badly-infested trees the presence of the scale on new growths and the fruit produces a deep-red coloration on the tissues of the bark.

It leaves no conspicuous, ventral, whitish scale on the bark after the removal of the insect, as does the Scurfy Bark-louse.