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BIOLOGY OF CEROPLASTES RUSCI L. ON FIGS IN FARS PROVINCE

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Summary

Ceroplastes rusci L. belongs to Coccidae family. In fars, it overwintered as 2nd instar larvae on young fig branches. This insect had two generations per year. The first generation was active during spring, laying eggs in May and the highest population of the larvae occured in the mid June. The second generation went through the same process in summer, laying eggs early in August and the larvae were completely out late in August. The life span of egg, larvae 1 and 2 and adult at $26 \pm 1^{\circ}$ c were 8-12, 4-7 and 28-32 days, respectively. The average number of eggs laid by a single female in the aboratory was 1280, with the maximum and minimum of 2680 and 230, respectively.

The use of *Tetrastichus sp.* parasite is one of the promising methods for biological control of this insect. The experiments carried out at Fars Research Center. indicated that up to 42% of this scale were eradicated by *Tetrastichus sp.* parasite.

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