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MORPHOLOGY AND BIOECOLOGY OF FIG SCALE *LEPIDOSAPHES*
CONCHIFORMIS GMELIN ON ELM TREES (DIASPIDIDAE;
HOMOPTERA) IN ISFAHAN (IRAN) AND ITS CONTROL METHODS¹
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Morphological characteristics, damage, local distribution, and seasonal population changes of the scale *Lepidosaphes conchiformis* Gmelin on elm trees were considered.

Two morphological forms of the female scale, one the most common for overwintering and the other most common during growing season were determined. Damage was severe in the central part of the city with a longer history of insecticide use. The scale overwintered as unoviposited female on trunk and tree branches but their offsprings mostly dispersed on the leaves.

The parasitoid *Aphytis libanicus* Traboulsi (Aphelinidae; Hymenoptera) and the predator larvae *Cybocephalus* sp. (Nitidulidae; Coleoptera) were the most common natural enemies of this scale.

Mature larvae and pupae of *A. libanicus* were collected from ovipositing and unoviposited female and rarely from second stage nymphs. Because of overlapping generation of the host and much shorter life cycle of the parasitoid well synchrony was available between them. therefore we expect this parasitoid be important natural control factor of the scale

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Three complete generations of the scale were present. The proper spray time during study period was suggested in first and second generation respectively in May and July during peak to end of egg hatch.

For integrated control, proper spray application time of insecticides was suggested late in May and early in July while pupae of parasitoid were protected under scale.

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