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Didesmococcus unifasciatus (ARCH.)

A NEW SOFT SCALE IN AZARBAIDJAN OF IRAN¹ M. H. KAZEMI²

SUMMARY

This is the first record of this soft scale insect trom IRAN. The insect has been first found in Azarbaidjan, a north- western province of the country. As the host plants we have found this insect on the stone fruit trees belonging to the family ROSACEAE; among which almond and peach trees are most attacked.

Observations extending over many years in Azarbaidjan enables us to be sure that the insect produces only one generation per year. The winter is passed in Azarbaidjan, as well as in Damavand (a mountainous fruit growing region in the vicinity of Tehran) in the second larval instar (RADJABI; 1984, private communication).

Dibrachys sp. prob. cavus (WALKER) a hymenopterous parasite belon-ging to the family PTEROMALIDAE, causes up to 30% motrality of the insect.

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