Research Note

MANGOES (MANGIFERA INDICA L.) *SUSCEPTIBILITY TO* AULACASPIS TUBERCULARIS *NEWSTEAD (HOMOPTERA: DIASPIDIDAE) IN PUERTO RICO*[1,2]

During the summer of 1981 a heavy infestation of *Aulacaspis tubercularis* was observed in the mango orchard at Fortuna Fruit Substation in Juana Díaz, Puerto Rico. This scale, which injures the leaf and fruit by sucking, affects the commercial value of the fruit and its export potential.

Susceptibility to this insect was determined in the orchard collection of 84 varieties. Varieties David Haden, Haden, Irvin, Keitt, Palmer and Parvin were observed.

TABLE 1.—*Susceptibility of mango varieties to* Aulacaspis tubercularis

Varieties	Trees inspected	Trees infected			Points	Order of infestation
		Low XI	Moderate X3	Heavy X5		
David Haden	35	5	5	5	45	III
Edward	42	12	5	5	52	II
Haden	38	7	4	12	79	I
Irvin	26	3	1	3	21	VI
Keitt	19	5	1	3	23	V
Palmer	38	3	1	2	13	VII
Parvin	41	14	4	1	31	IV

Susceptibility was graded as follows: low infestation (1 to 10 damaged leaves per tree), moderate infestation (11 to 20 damaged leaves per tree) and heavy infestation (21 or more damaged leaves per tree). Grades were assigned 1, 3 and 5 points, respectively.

The most susceptible varieties were Haden, Edward and David Haden (table 1). Susceptibility values were similar in Irvin and Keitt and the lowest in Palmer. Haden variety is six times more susceptible to this infestation than Palmer.

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