

OYSTERSHELL SCALE

Lepidosaphes ulmi

- Natural range -** Probably of European origin, now widely distributed across North America
- Species affected -** Many broadleaf trees including aspen, birch, maple, poplar, sycamore and willow.
- Type of damage -** Scales infest twigs, branches and smooth, thin barked stems in shaded areas. Bark on heavily attacked branches dries and splits, causing branches to die. Heavy infestations can sometimes kill trees.
- Symptoms -** Presence of dead or dying branches or abnormally yellow or stunted foliage on individual tree branches, presence of colonies of tiny scales shaped like an oyster= shell.
- Importance -** A common pest of shade and ornamental trees but rarely found in natural forests. In Colorado, infestations on are common in urban areas on quaking aspen.



Oystershell scale on branch of quaking aspen