Grape Mealybug (*Pseudococcus maritimus*) Life Cycle in the North Coast

Winter  |  Spring  |  Summer  |  Fall
---|---|---|---

As temperatures warm, young nymphs move to the base of spurs then onto new shoots reaching maturity in late-May and June.

In June females return to old wood to lay eggs. Eggs hatch mid-June to early July.

In late June and July nymphs move out from bark to infest fruit and foliage. Fruit touching bark becomes infested.

Late August to September most females return to old wood to lay overwintering eggs.

Overwinter as eggs, 1st and 2nd instar nymphs within cottony ovisacs under loose bark.

Overwinter as eggs, nymphs and adults under the bark, in pruning wounds and at the base of the spur. Most are found at the graft union.

All stages of overlapping generations are found on canes, clusters, leaves and under bark on trunks and cordons.

Densities decline and nymphs and adults migrate to lower trunk.

Fallen infested leaves may be carried by wind to neighboring vineyards.

Lucia G. Varela, North Coast IPM Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension, May 2005