

## Gill's mealybug survey protocol *Ferrisia gilli*



OREGON  
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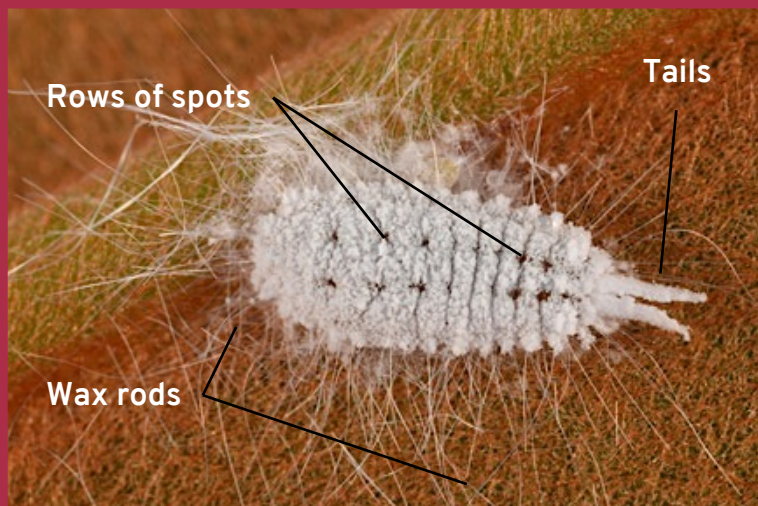
### FOR MEALYBUG OBSERVATIONS on grapevines in Oregon:

**Attention Oregon grape growers and vineyard workers:** *Ferrisia gilli* (Hemiptera: Pseudococcidae), also known as Gill's mealybug (MB), is an emerging vineyard pest that has been found in Oregon. Gill's MB are fairly large (about 1/8" or 3-4 mm) at time of shoot thinning. They will likely be visible at the base of growing shoots. If you have strong eyes, a good magnifier, or other means to look at them close-up, they aren't too difficult to differentiate in the field.

### HOW TO SURVEY

At shoot thinning and throughout the season have workers **watch for mealybugs** at the **base of shoots** and elsewhere on the plant.

1. Examine the mealybugs and, using the images on the back of this sheet, try to determine which species it is.
2. If they appear to be grape mealybug, ignore them.
3. **Report suspect Gill's or vine mealybugs.**
  - Take a picture.
  - **Make sure it is in focus.** Images that are in focus, although farther away, will be more useful than out-of-focus close-up images.
4. **Mark the vine so that it can be found later and submit the image** as described in. "IF TARGET MEALYBUGS ARE FOUND" on the other side of this page.



**Gill's mealybug. Report!** Notice the 2 rows of dark spots and long, rod-like wax sticking out from the body. Photograph by Lyle J. Buss, University of Florida.



**Gill's mealybug at base of new shoot.** Image from Chalise and Pfeiffer, Virginia Tech <https://smallfruits.org/2021/10/mealybugs-in-the-vineyard-current-management-and-recent-research/>

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### Mealybugs to REPORT!



#### Gill's mealybug

- **Two thick waxy tails** very close together.
- **Rows of dots down the back** (bare areas).
- **Fine wax rods** (not always present) that give a fuzzy appearance.

Image from Haviland, et al,

<https://anrcatalog.ucanr.edu/pdf/8207.pdf>



Image by K. Daane.  
<https://cifr.ucr.edu/invasive-species/vine-mealybug>

#### Vine mealybug

- **Short wax tails** less than half the width of the mealybug.
- No spots
- No wax rods. If wax is present then it is thick and "mealy."

### MORE INFORMATION

Oregon Department of Agriculture  
Insect Pest Prevention & Management Program  
635 Capitol Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301-2532 USA  
503.986.4636 | [Oregon.gov/ODA](http://Oregon.gov/ODA)

### Common mealybug: DO NOT REPORT



#### Grape mealybug female

- **Two pairs of long wax "tails,"** both pairs shorter than body length but longer than half of the body width.

Image from UC IPM:

<https://www2.ipm.ucanr.edu/agriculture/pomegranate/Grape-mealybug/>

### IF TARGET MEALYBUGS ARE FOUND

1. **Use flagging to mark the location.**  
Write your name and date on the flagging.
2. **Report sightings with images** to the ODA mealybug detection database found at: <https://oda.fyi/mealybug>
3. or **send a photograph** of the mealybugs. Send the best image with the
  - A. site name and address,
  - B. date, and
  - C. GPS coordinates (if possible).
 Via email: [Joshua.vlach@oda.oregon.gov](mailto:Joshua.vlach@oda.oregon.gov)

#### Before traveling to a new property:

1. **Clean hand tools** that were used.
2. **Check clothing, gloves and shoes** for mealybugs and remove them.
3. Do not bring parts of grapevines
4. If your vehicle or other equipment entered the vineyard, **clean the tires and exterior.**

### REFERENCE

Gohil, H. G.C. Pavlis, D. Ward, and M. Nita. 2016. Red leaves in the Vineyard: Biotic and Abiotic Causes. Rutgers University Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet FS1260. 4pp.