

# Pink Hibiscus Mealybug

## *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green)

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Be on the alert for this significant pest of fruits, vegetables, fiber-producing plants, and ornamentals.

If you have any questions or wish to report an infestation, please contact the nearest office of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Plant Protection and Quarantine or your State department of agriculture.

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### *Photograph credits:*

Photos 1 and 2: Dale E. Meyerdirk of the USDA, APHIS; 3-5: Marshall W. Johnson of the University of Hawaii.



Infested twig on hibiscus shrub. Mealybugs and egg masses are concentrated on twigs and branches of this plant.



"Bunchy top" on citrus. Toxic saliva causes stunting of the terminal plant growth and leaves.

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**Adult female (arrow) and immatures.** Adult females are wingless and about 3 mm long; they have a reddish body and body fluid.



**Adult female laying egg sac.** Note pinkish-colored eggs and crawlers inside.



**Adult male.** Males have one pair of wings and are smaller than females. Caudal wax filaments are as long as the body.