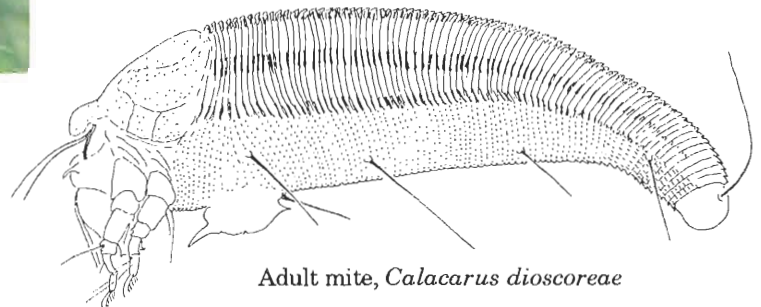




Mite damage on a tender leaf



Mite damage on an older leaf



Adult mite, *Calacarus dioscoreae*

**Common Name:** Yam Rust Mite  
**Scientific Name:** *Calacarus dioscoreae* (Eriophyidae)

The yam rust mite is a vagrant. It does not form erineae or galls. It is purplish-gray in color and is found on the surface of the leaves of cultivated yam (*Dioscorea* sp.). Since the eriophyid mites are very small, a compound dissection microscope is required to detect them. Severe infestation by this mite causes young leaves to become curled and chlorotic. Older leaves show reddish-brown discolorations on the leaf surface in between the veins. This mite is transferred from infested plants to healthy ones by wind or by contaminated planting materials, clothing and equipment.

**Control:**

1. Avoid planting material from infested plants.
2. Apply miticides for control. Consult with an Agricultural Extension Agent for recommendation of chemicals. You can contact an agent by calling 734-2575, 734-2579, 734-2518 or 734-4753.

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