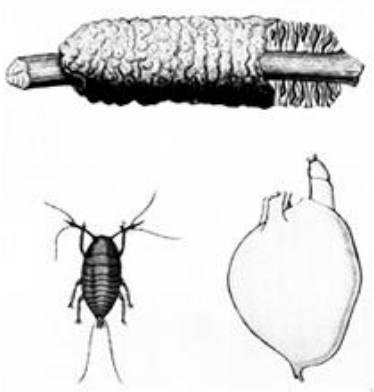
LAC is a dye extract from the scale insect Kerria lacca which are found in India, south east Asia, Nepal, Burma, Bhutan and south China. Female Lac insects invade host trees (fig and acacia) and secrete resin which contains a red dye. The resin is removed from the tree and used as shellac while the dye is removed from the resin. Similar to Cochineal, Lac extract gives softer and more muted crimsons, burgundy reds and deep purples. Lac dye has high light and wash fastness on silk and wool and is used at 10 – 15% WOF for medium shades.

MORDANTING

PROTEIN
Use alum at 15% WOF
Use iron at 15% WOF for greys.
Use copper at 15% WOF for purples.
CELLULOSE
Use tannin at 8% WOF
The use alum at 15% WOF or Aluminium Acetate at 8%

DYEING Dissolve Lac in water and simmer with fibre for 45 minutes. If you leave it over night to brew you will get deeper richer colours. This dye is very sensitive to change in pH and develops to its fullest colour potential with the addition of cream of tartar at 6% WOF. The addition of soda ash will change the colour to plum purples and the addition of iron will give black/purples.



MYROBALAN – comes from the ground nuts of the Terminalia chebula tree which grows in Nepal, India, Sri Lanka, Burma, Thailand, Indochina and south China. You can use Myrobalan as both a dye or mordant as it contains high levels of Tannin. As a dye you will get lovely soft yellows and as a predye with Indigo for teal greens. When used as a tannin mordant Myrobalan requires 15-20% WOF. If using to create a soft butter yellow use 20-30% WOF.

MORDANTING

PROTEIN
Use alum at 15% WOF
CELLULOSE
Use alum at 15% WOF
Theres enough tannin in Myrobalan without using any extra tannin.

DYEING Dissolve Myrobalan powder and add to the dyebath. Bring dyebath up to approx. 55C and the add fibre. Continue heating bath to simmer under the boil and hold temp for 1 hour. If you add Iron 2 – 4 % WOF to the dyebath you will get soft lichen greens to grey greens