

cochineal *(coch-i-neal)*

Definition

n. 1 Mexican red scale insect that feeds on cacti; the source of a red dye; 2 a red dyestuff consisting of dried bodies of females of the above insect

Example Sentence

Before the introduction of synthetic dyes **cochineal** was commonly used.

Synonyms

Mexican insect; Dactylopius coccus; red dye

Antonyms

blue dye

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