

# Greenhouse pests

- Thrips
- Whiteflies
- Fungus gnats
- Shore flies
- Mites
- Bulb mites
- Aphids
- Mealybugs
- Leaf miners (rare in IN)

# Greenhouse pests

- Thrips
- Whiteflies
- Fungus gnats
- Shore flies
- Spider mites
- Leaf miners
- Aphids
- Mealybugs
- Bulb mites

# Thrips

- Feathery wings
- Adults winged
- Nymphs wingless
- Rasping mouthparts
- Many are omnivores



Just like a deer, there's no singular  
here



W. Cranshaw



# Western Flower Thrips

- Direct damage to flowers when adults and immatures feed
- Vectors impatiens necrotic spot virus
- Many host plants



# Flower Distortion by WFT on Chrysanthemum



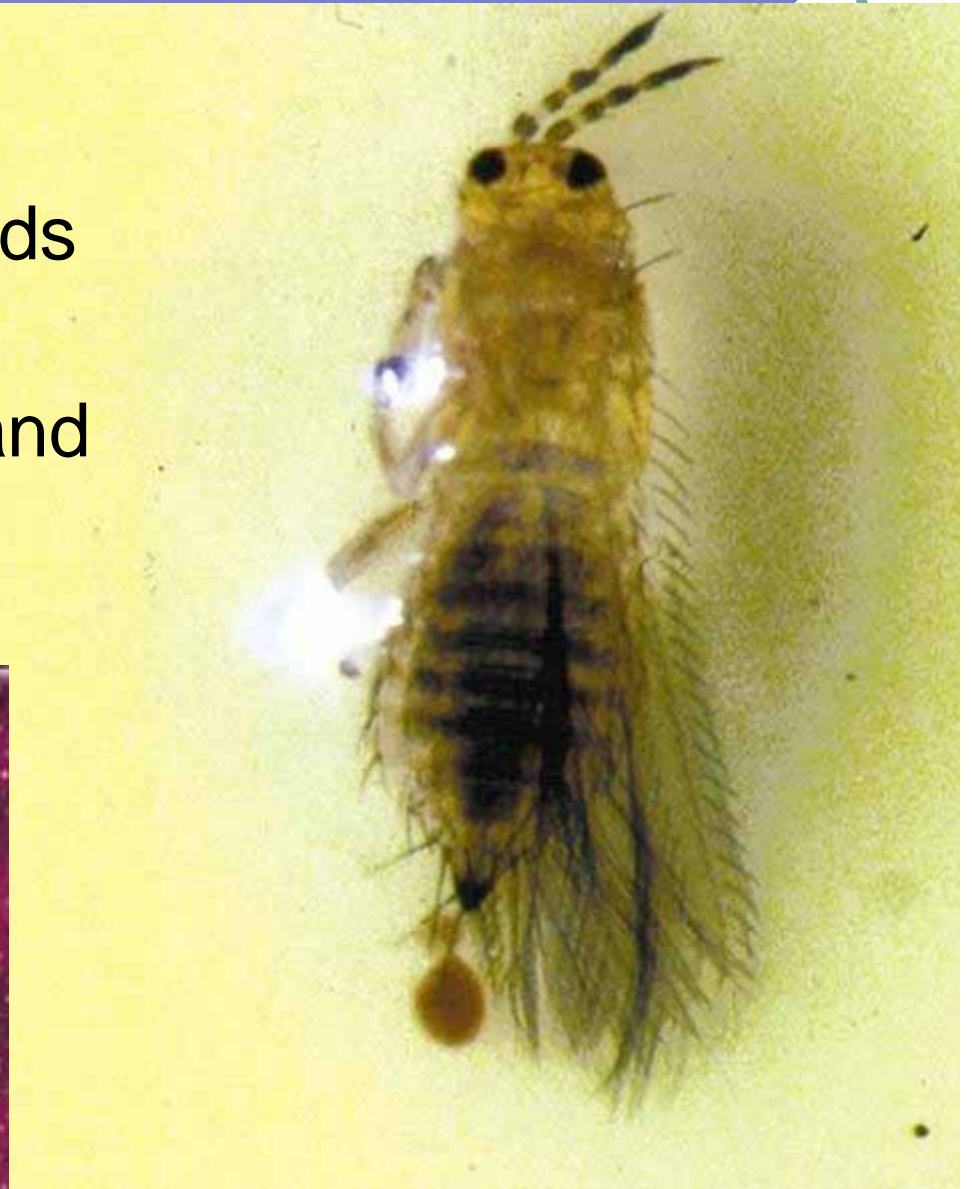


# Impatiens Necrotic Spot Virus



# Western Flower Thrips

- Monitor winged adults using yellow sticky cards
- Look for wingless immatures in flowers and other tight spaces



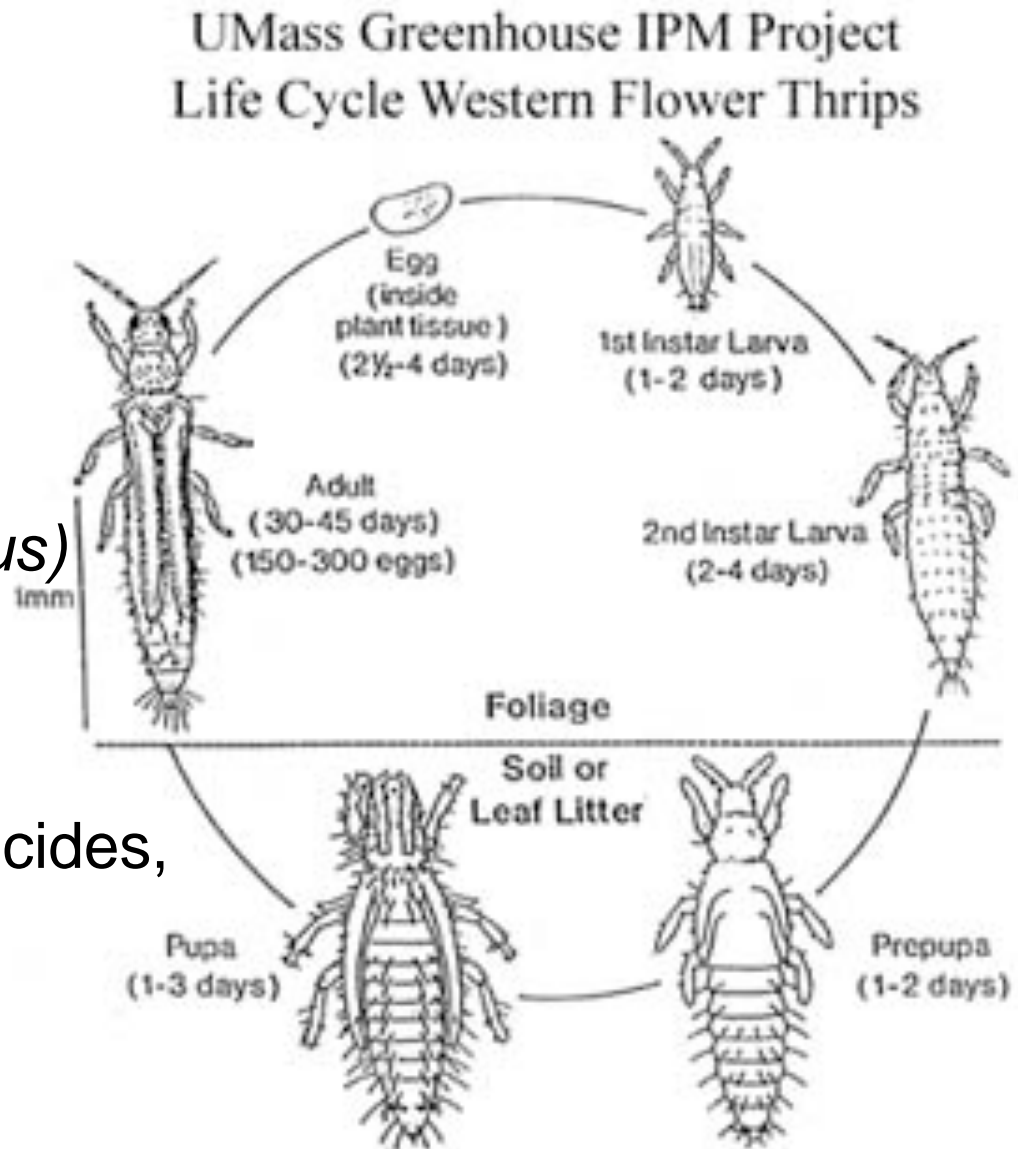


# WFT

## Life cycle

Above ground  
mobile stages can be  
killed by pesticides  
and predaceous mites  
(*Amblyseius*, *Neoseiulus*)

Below ground stage  
can't be killed by pesticides,  
but may be killed by  
predaceous mites  
(*Hypoaspis spp*)



# WFT Control

- Screen vents
- Eliminate reservoir plants (weeds, old plants etc.)
- Monitor with sticky traps-Tends not to be a problem in winter months
- If applying contact pesticide, do so at 5 day intervals to kill adults emerging from pupae
- <http://www.entm.purdue.edu/entomology/ext/targets/e-series/EseriesPDF/E-110.htm>

# Thrips Pesticide Considerations

## Pesticide Resistance

Rotate classes of pesticides @ 3 weeks

## Thigmotaxis

Thrips are omnivores. They hide in buds, coverage is difficult.

## Floral protection

Systemics like imidacloprid do not translocate to flowers.  
More mobile products are likely in future.

## Compatible with BC

Spinosad won't kill mite predators, is a lamellar systemic



# Biological Control for WFT

## Mites

[http://www.umass.edu/umext/floriculture/fact\\_sheets/pest\\_management/thripsbio.html](http://www.umass.edu/umext/floriculture/fact_sheets/pest_management/thripsbio.html)

- *Amblyseius cucumeris* and *degenerans* (Foliar predators)
- *Hypoaspis miles* and *aculeifer* (soil dwelling pupal predators)

## Plant bugs

- *Orius* spp.

## Fungal disease

- *Beauveria bassiana*

<http://www.entomology.umn.edu/cues/inter/Biologic.html>

# Greenhouse thrips

- Adults are black. Yellow nymphs produce black fecal drops.
- Not a disease vector



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# Other Greenhouse Thrips

- Gladiolus thrips
  - A problem for gladiolus growers
- Tobacco thrips
  - Migrate into greenhouse late in season, can be confused with gladiolus thrips

See key for other thrips

<http://www.entomology.umn.edu/cues/inter/inmine/Thrips.pdf>

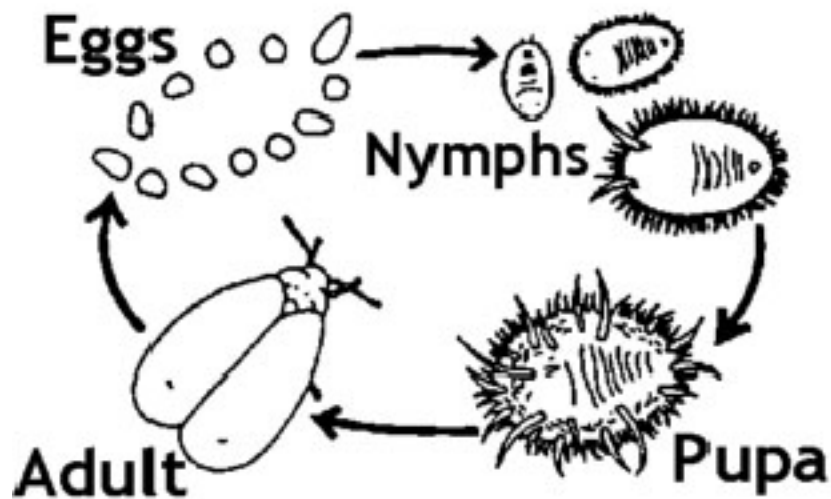


# Whiteflies

- Produce honeydew and cause sooty mold problem
- Flying white adults can be unsightly
- Problem on Poinsettias and many other crops
- Can vector diseases in some instances



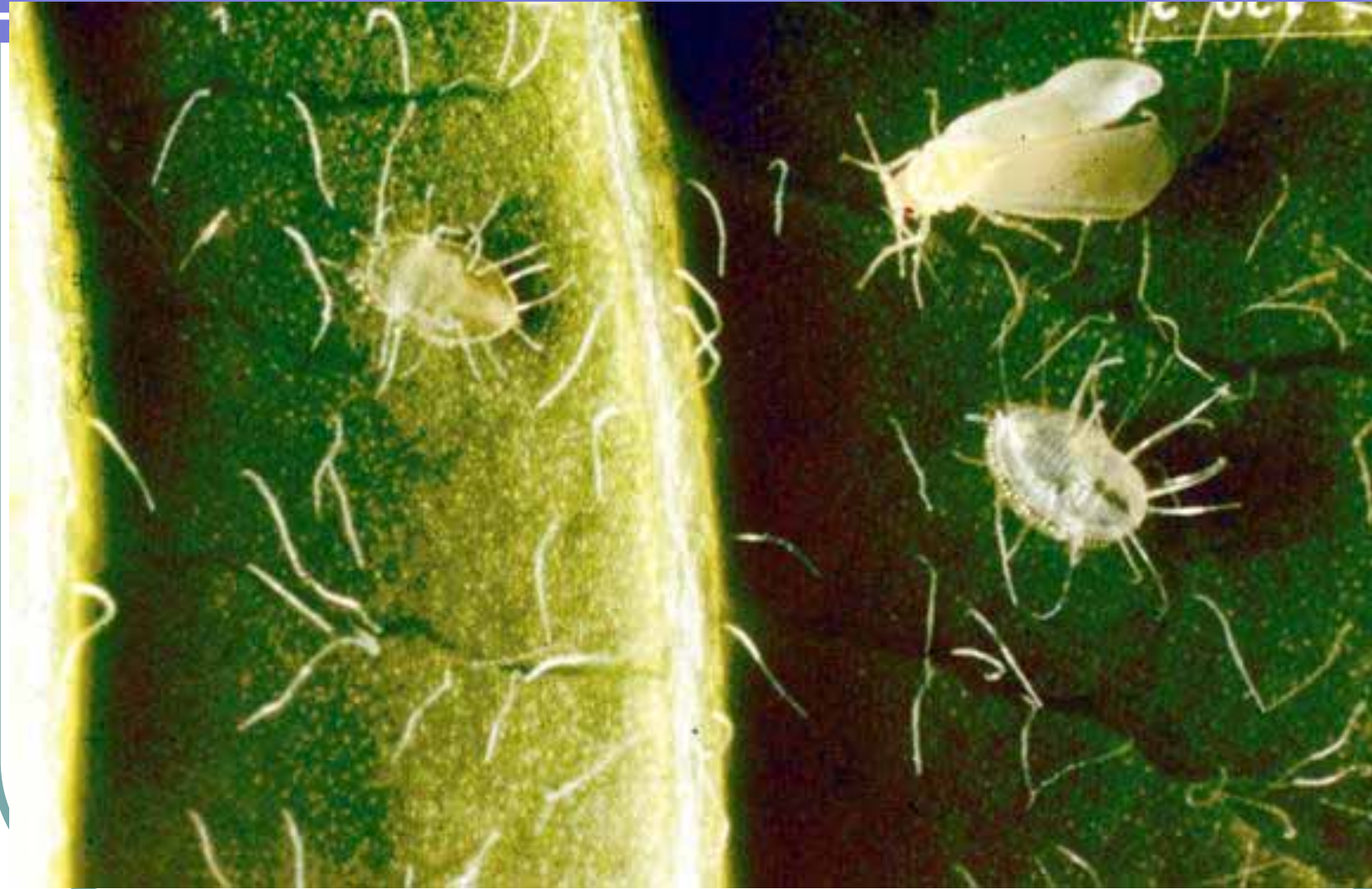
# Whitefly Life Cycle



- Adult is the mobile phase
- Eggs, nymphs and pupae transported on plants.

(Courtesy University of GA)

# Greenhouse Whitefly





# Adult Greenhouse Whitefly



# Adult Silver Leaf Whitefly

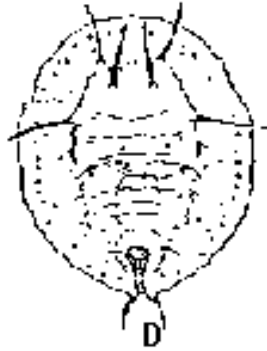




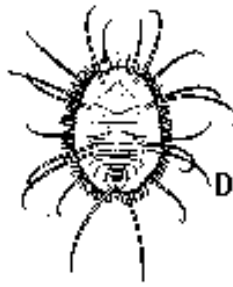
# Silver Leaf Whitefly Nymphs



# Silverleaf vs GHS Whitefly



silverleaf



greenhouse



# Bandedwinged Whiteflies



Similar to greenhouse whitefly, but adult has banded wings

# Whitefly management

- Inspection of new plant material
- Sanitation
- Monitor plants and yellow sticky cards

## Biological Controls:

- *Encarsia formosa* (Inoculative)
- *Eretmocera eremicus* (Inundative)

[http://www.umass.edu/umext/floriculture/pest\\_management/biological\\_control.html](http://www.umass.edu/umext/floriculture/pest_management/biological_control.html)

## Poinsettia -Whitefly Innundative release (after Van Driesche 2002)

- Eretmocerus eremicus – released weekly for 15 weeks .
- Insect growth regulator (Fenoxycarb) applied at week 7 and 8 to slow whitefly population growth
- Cost of \$.25/plant – competitive with imidacloprid (plus follow up sprays)

# Encarsia formosa





# Greenhouse Whitefly (black = parasitized)



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# Chemical Control of Whiteflies

- Whitefly Control in Greenhouses and Interior Plantscapes: University of Georgia  
<http://www.ces.uga.edu/pubcd/b1077-w.html>
- Imidacloprid gives long lasting control but must use other materials to prevent resistance
- Many pesticide options exist

# Type Q Whiteflies

## Resistant to neonicotinoids

See website for resistance management  
and lists of products that work

[http://www.irac-online.org/documents/moa\\_whiteflyposter.pdf](http://www.irac-online.org/documents/moa_whiteflyposter.pdf)

# Fungus gnat -damage by larvae

- Larvae (maggots) feed on fungus in soil and nip at roots, and tunnel in stem.
- High populations of maggots can injure plants and spread soil borne pathogens like Pythium
- Thrive in moist soil
- Monitor larvae by placing a potato slice on the soil and changing weekly



# Fungus gnat adults

- Adults are have long antenna.
- High populations of adults can be a nuisance, and may spread Botrytis among flowers.
- Adults are attracted to yellow sticky cards placed 2" above plant canopy



# Fungus Gnat Cultural Control

- Keep soil covered in potting area. Adults lay eggs in moist media.
- Keep greenhouse weed-free to prevent moist conditions suitable to fungal growth.
- Moderate watering to keep plants dry

# Fungus Gnat Biological Control

- Nematodes (*Steinernema feltiae*) attack larvae
- Soil mites, *Hypoaspis miles*, attack larvae
- *Bacillus thuringiensis israeliensis* (Gnatrol)

# Fungus Gnat- Chemical Control

Pot drenches kill larvae

- Adept and Distance are insect growth regulators that provide good control of larvae
- *Bacillus thuringiensis* var *Israelensis* (Gnatrol) also kills larvae

Foliar applications kill adults

- Pyrethroid and other insecticides control adults.
- For more information See E-111

- <http://www.entm.purdue.edu/entomology/ext/targets/e-series/EseriesPDF/E-111.htm>



# Shore flies

- Adults are nuisance pests
- Antenna are short and bristled-like a house fly
- Wings have spots
- Larvae feed on algae in upper inch of soil



# Shore flies – Cultural Control

- Clean up standing water that can be a source of algae.
- Use an algicide to clean up algal buildup.
- Keep greenhouse weed-free to prevent moist conditions suitable to algal growth.
- Moderate watering to keep plants dry

# Shore flies – Biological Control

- *Hypoaspis miles* kill larvae
- Native parasitoid (*Hexacola* sp.)

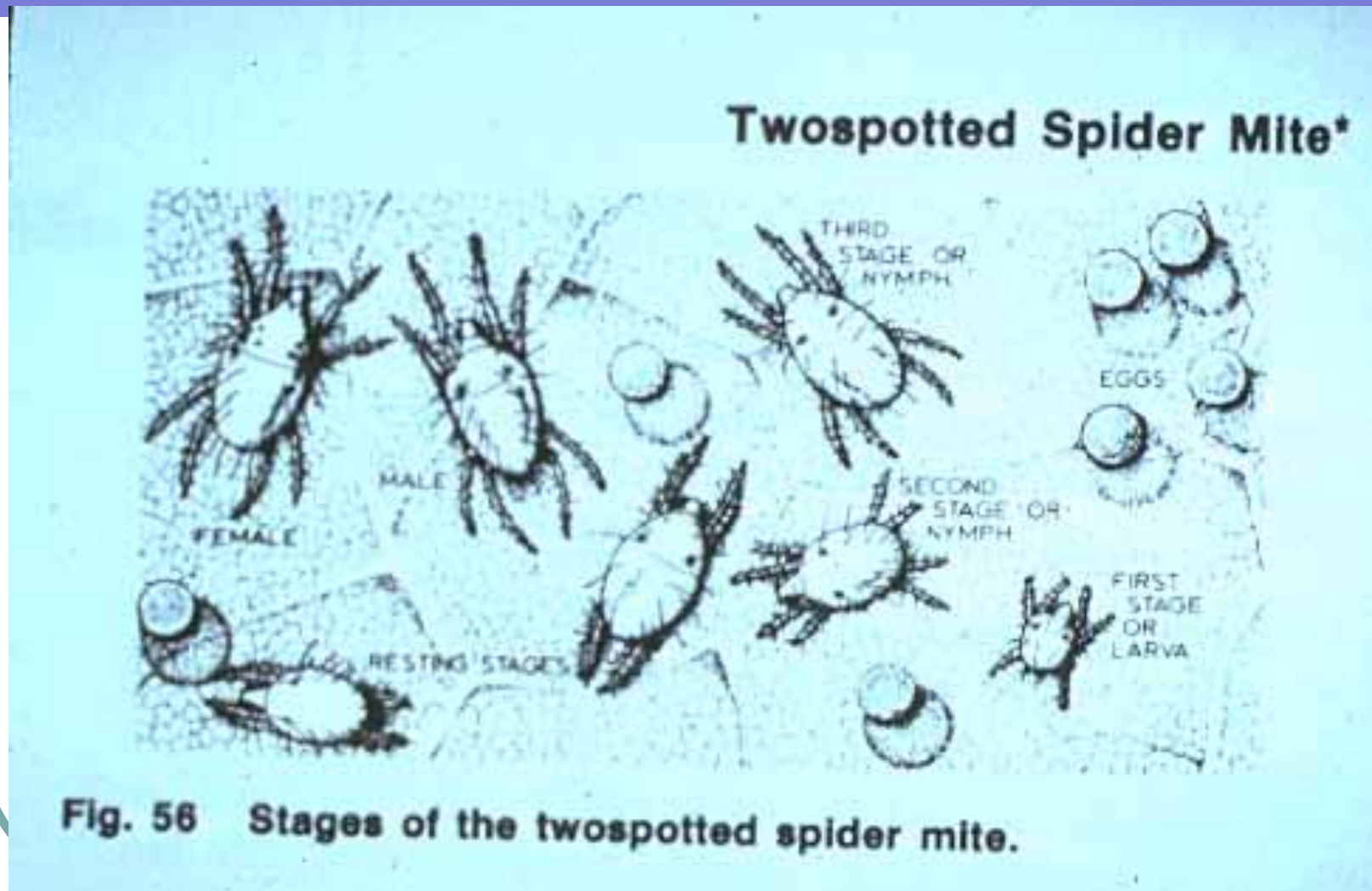
Controls for FG that DO NOT control SF

- *Bacillus thuringiensis israeliensis* (Gnatrol)
- Nematodes (*Steinernema feltiae*)

# Shore fly- Chemical Control

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# Two Spotted Spider Mite





# Spider Mite Monitoring

Turn over leaves to look for:

- Stippling of leaves
- Presence of webs and eggs.

Tap foliage over white paper to look for

- Mites crawling on paper



# Miticides

## Selective, Easy on Beneficials, Long residual

- Akari, Floramite, Ovation, Hexygon, Tetrasan, Vendex

## Short residual

- Oil, Soap

## Rescue Treatments, Not Selective

- Talstar, Scimitar, Battle, Avid, Sanmite
  - *Pylon (greenhouse only) – not effective against Lewis mites*

# Lewis Mite



# Lewis mite



- On poinsettia
- Smaller than TSSM
- Lack 2 spots
- Floramite, Avid, Akari OK
- Pylon not effective

# Spider mite biological control

Many natural enemies

- Predatory mites
  - Neoseiulus persimilis (heavy populations)
  - Neosilius californicus (low populations)
- Predatory midges (fly to containers)
- Minute pirate bugs
- Lacewings



# Predatory midge *Feltiella acarisuga*



[http://creatures.ifas.ufl.edu/beneficial/F\\_acarisuga\\_larva.htm](http://creatures.ifas.ufl.edu/beneficial/F_acarisuga_larva.htm)

# Predatory Mite



# Green Lacewing Adult





# Green Lacewing Larva



# Spider mite control

- Use miticides compatible with natural enemies bifenazate(Floramite), clofentazine (Ovation) or hexythiazox (Hexygon)
- Use insect growth regulators and spinosad to control other pests to avoid killing predators
- Rotate classes of insecticide to prevent resistance
- See E-42 for details

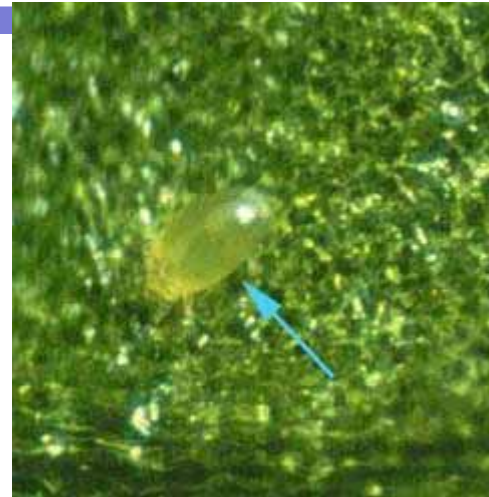
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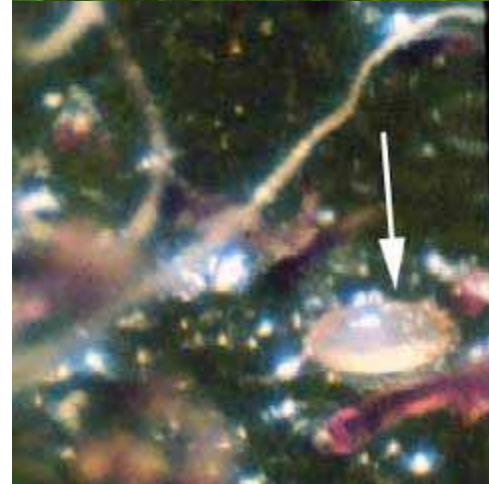
# Cyclamen and Broad Mites



Broad mite damage to begonia. Note the bark-like texture of the injured stem and the stunted leaves.



Female broad mite at extreme magnification.



Extreme closeup of a cyclamen mite female.

- Microscopic mites will cause russeting, and leaf distortion.
- Young growing tips are often affected

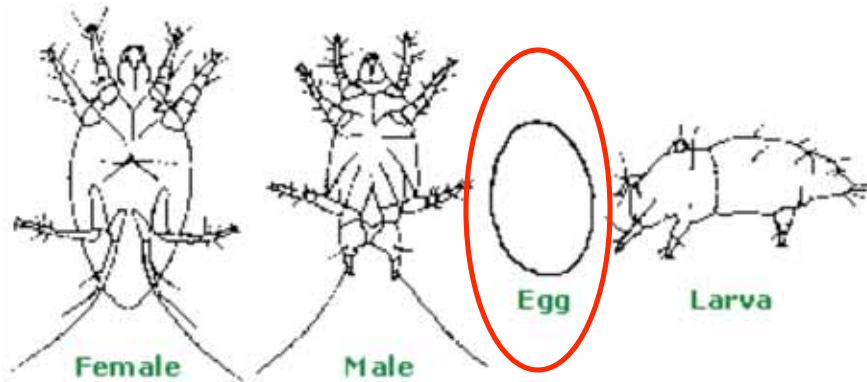
Photo Courtesy of J. Baker NC State

# Cyclamen vs Broad Mites

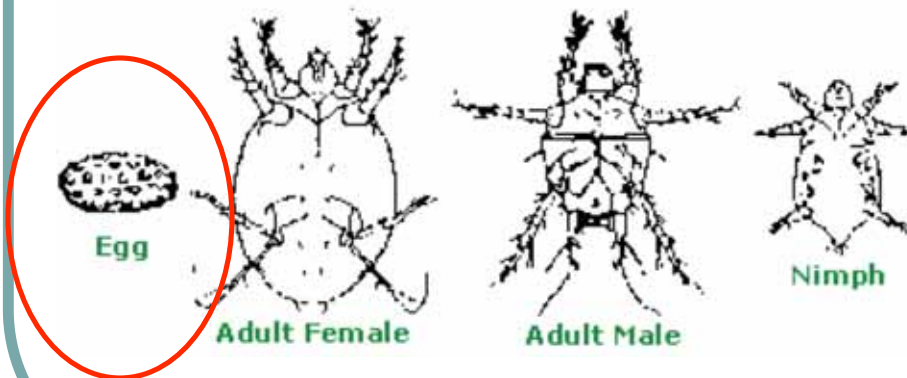
Cyclamen mites favored by cool temperatures (60 F and high humidity)  
Eggs are smooth

Broad mites favored by warm temperatures (70-80 F). Eggs are dimpled.

# Cyclamen vs. Broad Mites



Cyclamen mite  
Smooth eggs



Broad mite  
Bumpy eggs

# Cyclamen and Broad mite control

Arrive into greenhouses on tubers and in buds of plant material

- Heat treat infested plant material at 111 F for 15 minutes

Miticides -Abamectin (Avid), Milbemectin (Ultiflora), chlorfenapyr (Pylon), Dicofol (Kelthane)

For broad mites only -pyridaben (Sanmite),

# Bulb Mite





# Bulb mite Damage and Control

- Are problematic on Easter Lilies and other bulbs
- Spread Pythium and other diseases

**Not much is labeled for control.**

Dipping bulbs for 30 minutes in hot water, or with Kelthane, Avid, or Hexygon have been effective.

Hypoaspis miles, a predator mite shows some promise.

For details see:

<http://floriculture.osu.edu/archive/dec00/blbmite.html>

# Black Bean Aphid



# Aphids

- Cause honeydew/sooty mold problem
- Potential disease vectors
- Monitor for winged adults in yellow sticky cards.
- Inspect plants for wingless adults and immatures
- Screening vents is critical
- Many natural enemies
- Systemic insecticides also effective

# Green Peach Aphid



# Parasitized Aphids

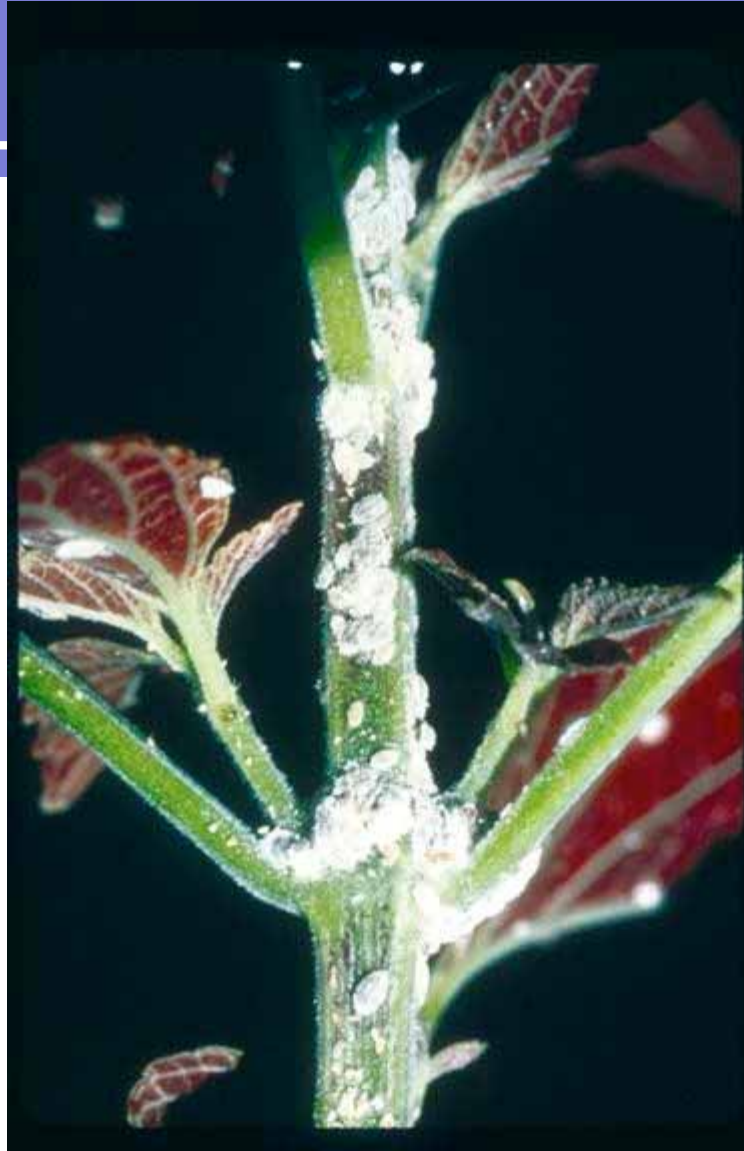




# Green Lacewing



# Mealybugs



# Mealybugs

## Identification

<http://mrec.ifas.ufl.edu/Iso/Mealybugs.htm>

## Common Mealybugs in Indiana

Citrus mealybug

Longtail mealybug

Monitor by inspecting plants

# Mealybug biological control

- *Cryptolaemus montreuzieri* – a beetle predator that lays eggs in ovisacs of several species

(Does not control Longtail mealybugs)

- Parasitoids are available but tend to be more specific (*Leptomastix* spp.)

# Citrus Mealybug





# Long-tailed Mealybug



# Mealybug Destroyer





# Mealybug Parasite- *Leptomastix dactylopii*



# Mealybug chemical control

- Waxy coating and ability to hide in crevices makes mealybugs difficult to control with insecticides.
- Ovisacs laid on pots or under benches can complicate control.
- Systemic insecticides can be helpful
- Spot applications to conserve beneficials.

# Some Common Soft and Armored scales

## Soft scales

- brown soft scale

- hemispherical scale

- tessellated scale

## Armored scales

- Boisduval scale

- Fern scale



# Brown Soft Scales and Crawlers



# Fern Scale





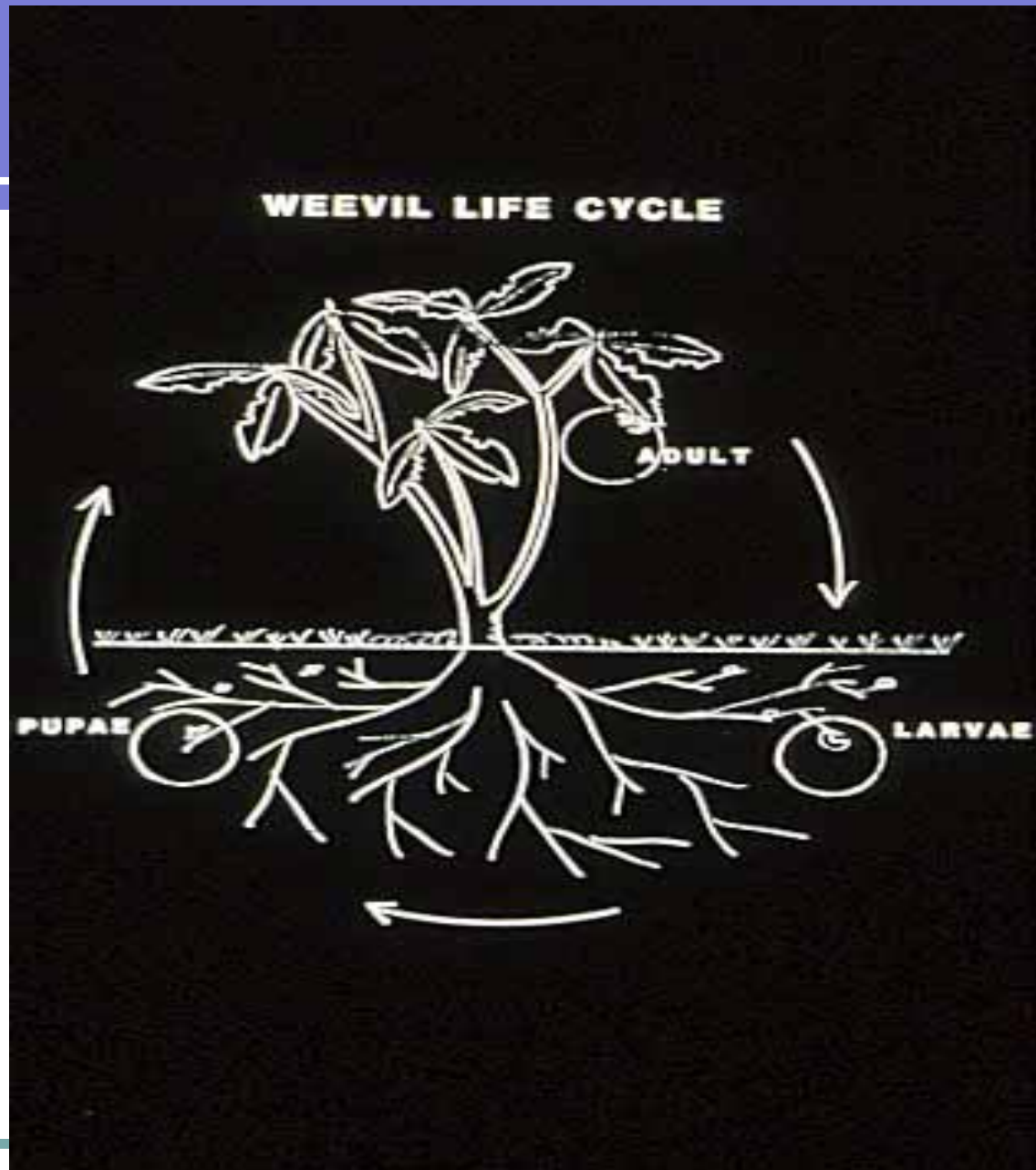
Biological Control is critical for scale management – Many NE's available



# Adult Black Vine Weevil



# Weevil Life Cycle





# Black Vine Weevil Damage



LONGSLEEVE T-S  
BROIDERED T