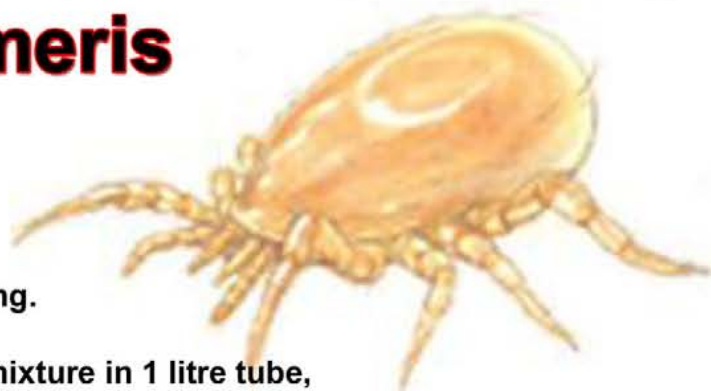


PREDATORY INSECTS

Amblyseius Cucumeris

This tiny tan colored mite forages on the leaves of plants and eats the small thrips larvae. These predators work best when applied early to prevent thrips numbers from increasing.



A. cucumeris is packaged in a granular bran mixture in 1 litre tube, or 3 litre pails. To apply bulk mix, mist leaves lightly and sprinkle directly on leaves or place in small pile, 1/2 to 1 teaspoon per plant directly on soil or rock wool blocks. A. cucumeris is packaged at 50,000 per litre.

Preventative: 5 per square foot - every 1-2 weeks

Curative: 10 per square foot - every week

Thrips:

Thrips are very small (1.25-mm or less), fringe winged, and yellowish brown to amber with an orange thorax. The male is slightly smaller and lighter in color than the female.

Symptoms:

Plant injury is caused by both nymphs and adults rasping the bud, flower and leaf tissues of the host plants, and then sucking the exuding sap. This causes distorted and discolored flowers or buds and gray or silvery, speckled areas on the leaves. Thrips reproduce throughout the year with the majority of their 12 to 15 generations occurring during the warmer months. Newly emerged females begin to lay eggs within 1 to 4 days

