

PRODUCT INFORMATION SHEET

APHID PREDATOR – “A GREAT GENERAL PREDATOR!”

(Chrysopa carnea & Chrysoperia rutilabris: Green Lacewing – Larvae)

Product:

The common Green Lacewing is widely used in various situations to control many different pests. Most species of the adult lacewing do not kill pest insects, but subsist on pollen and nectar. It is the offspring that do the job! Adults are a green, fragile insect approximately 2cm in length, with a small head, large eyes and transparent net wings. The female lays her eggs on foliage, each on top of hair-like filaments. After a few days the egg will hatch and a **tiny larvae emerges which is also known as the “aphid lion” because of its voracious appetite.** Similar in appearance to an alligator with pincers, the aphid lion vigorously attacks its prey, injects a paralyzing venom, and draws out the body fluids of its helpless victim. It is known to be cannibalistic if no other food source is available. During the 2-3 weeks in this stage, it will **devour up to 200 victims a week.** It will then pupate by spinning a cocoon with silken thread, and approx., 5 days later the adult lacewing emerges to repeat the life cycle. Depending on climatic conditions, the adult will live for about 4-6 weeks. A food source is necessary or they will leave the area. Since one female can deposit up to 200 eggs, **use Beneficial Insect Food (available from NIC),** to provide the adults with the necessary nutrition required to reproduce.

Target:

Lacewings are a beneficial predatory insect that attacks insects and insect eggs such as aphids, small caterpillars, mites, whitefly, scale, mealybug, thrips leafhoppers, and other soft-bodied insects.

Release:

For best results, release immediately in early morning or late afternoon. Turn the container sideways and slowly rotate to migrate the larvae off of the sides and top/bottom of the container and into the media. Distribute the larvae by opening and tapping out the media and larvae onto the plant surface. Distribute the larvae into known pest infested areas as well as a smaller amount onto plants that are around the known infested area. Keep in mind the larvae unit is a combination of young larvae and eggs that are ready to hatch. Larvae are cannibalistic thus, larvae unit contains both larvae and ready to hatch eggs.

Rate:

For interiorscapes use 500 per 500ft² (46.5m²). In gardens use 500 per 2500ft² (232m²), and for field crops use 5000 per 1 acre (40ha).

Temperature:

Average temperatures for larvae and adults range from 60-80° F (16-28°C), with a relative humidity of 20-80%. 60°F (16°C) is the minimum temperature required for eating and egg-laying.

Notes:

- Lacewing eggs and adults are also available through NIC. Please ask us!

Phone: 905-382-2904; Email: info@nicniagara.com Please let NIC know within 24 hours upon receipt if there are any problems with your live insect order.

For further Information Contact: **NATURAL INSECT CONTROL**, 3737 Netherby Road, Stevensville, Ontario, L0S 1S0
905-382-2904; 905-382-4418 (Fax); info@nicniagara.com

For further information on all NIC Beneficial Insects go to www.naturalinsectcontrol.com

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