NATURAL INSECT CONTROL
WHERE NATURE THRIVES
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BANKER PLANTS:

The most commonly known banker plant system is the aphid banker plant system. It consists of barley plants infested with cherry-oat aphids (Rhopalosiphum padi), which serve as a food source and home for an important parasitic wasp, Aphidius sp.

According to studies, Aphidius sp. has been found to control aphid populations as effectively as pesticides, while being more environmentally friendly. Cherry oat aphid is a cereal grass pest and does not feed on dicotyledonous crops.

HOW TO USE IT?

1. Place an aphid banker plant in the greenhouse. Bankers can be placed on the bench or hung above the plants. Recommended introduction rate is 1 plant per acre of the greenhouse.

2. Add additional bankers after a week. Aphidius sp. can quickly parasitize aphid colonies. To prevent aphid colonies from collapsing aphid banker plants should be replaced every week. The recommended replacement rate is 1 for every 5 acres.

OPTIMAL ENVIRONMENT

Watering schedule: Bankers should be watered once or twice a week.

Optimal temperature: Highest parasitism rate is at 25-27C temperature.

HYPERPARASITES
There are parasitic wasps that only parasitize aphids that have already been parasitized by A.colemani. Hyperparasitism can result in the A.colemani population dropping significantly.

Please let NIC know within 24 hours upon receipt if there are any problems with your live insect order.

Phone: 905-382-2904 or Email: info@naturalinsectcontrol.com