WHITEFLY & THRIP CONTROL

(Generalist Predator)

Amblyseius swirskii

Product: *Amblyseius swirskii* are an excellent beneficial mite for preventative control of whiteflies and thrips. They are very small, less than 0.5mm long. They have non-segmented pear-shaped body and 8 slender legs. They take on the color of what they are consuming. After progressing through their 5–6-day immature phase, the female adults can lay up to 2 eggs per day on leaf hairs. When temperatures reach 25oC (77oF), the larvae hatch and mature to adulthood in about a week. This predatory beneficial prefers warm, humid environments, but survives cooler nights by moving to lower locations on the plants. They do not enter diapause when temperatures cool so they are efficient in areas where temperatures drop below 15oC (60oF), however, eggs do not hatch in temperatures that low. Repeated releases of adults will be necessary in the presence of low temperatures. This beneficial can survive by consuming pollen and mold in the absence of pests.
In warm and humid environments, they reproduce quickly. Typically, they can be used until nighttime temperatures drop below 15oC (60oF).

Target: The prey of *A. Swirskii* have a wide ranging appetite: from whitefly eggs and first instar larvae. Moreover, they can also consume thrips and spider mites. This beneficial can eat up to 19 whitefly eggs and 15 larvae per day.
Typically, whiteflies or thrips are located on some crops and flowers such as Sweet pepper and Hot pepper, Green and Runner bean, Eggplant (aubergine), Cucumber and Gherkin, Melon and Watermelon, Strawberry, Roses, Poinsettia, and Gerbera.

Release: The breeding sachets allow preventative introduction in non-pollinating crops such as cucumber. Every breeding sachet contains approximately 250 *A. swirskii* in a carrier of bran and feeder mites. These feeder mites serve as an alternative prey. During 3-4 weeks, each sachet produces thousands of predatory mites. They move into the crop through a hole in the waterproof sachet, so there is no need to open the sachet.
Swirskii-Breeding-System is delivered in a box with 500 sachets.
Put a bag on the branch of a crop or a flower where whiteflies are found. The bag continues to release the beneficial mites for 4-6 weeks or 6-8 weeks depending on the product.

Rate: Swirskii-Long-Life-System sachet contains approximately 150 *A. swirskii* in a carrier of bran, 2 feeder mite species and an alternative food source for these feeder mites. The sachets produce around two thousand predatory mites, continuing for a period longer than 6 weeks.
Hang sachets of the Swirskii-Long-Life-System on plants at a rate of 1 sachet/$2m^{2,}$ If necessary, repeat every 4 weeks.
Swirskii System: The predatory mites are delivered per 25.000 or 50.000 in a 1 liter plastic pot. The composition of the carrier exists of bran and vermiculite.
Preventively disperse 20 pieces/m^2 on the leaves. As soon as the first preys are detected, spread 100 pieces/m^2 where whitefly and thrips were located.

For further Information Contact: **NATURAL INSECT CONTROL**, 3737 Netherby Road, Stevensville, Ontario, L0S 1S0
905-382-2904 (Tel); 905-382-4418 (Fax); info@naturalinsectcontrol.com
For further Information on all NIC Beneficial Insects go to **www.naturalinsectcontrol.com**

Notes:

- Temperature: 25-29^{O}C (77-85^{O}F) / can remain active to 15^{O}C (60^{O}F)
- Relative Humidity: 70%
- Please use caution if using A. swirskii in a greenhouse where Phytosseiulus persimilis or Aphidoletes aphidimyza are in use. There could possibly be a compatibility issue.
- A.swirskii is not recommended for use on infestations on tomato crops

Bug Out! CLICK HERE to Give Your Insect Friends A New Home.

Please let us know within 24 hours of receipt if there are any problems with your Live Insect Order.

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