CULTIVATING GREEN SUCCESS MEALYBUG CONTROLS

NEXT ISSUE FUNGUS GNATS

MEALYBUGS

One of the most effective—and eco-friendly—ways to manage aphids is by introducing their natural enemies into your greenhouse

Here are some beneficial insects that can help you keep aphid populations in check:

- **Ladybugs (Lady Beetles)**: Both adults and larvae are ravenous aphid predators, making them one of the most popular choices for aphid control.
- **Lacewings:** The larvae of lacewings are voracious aphid eaters and will consume large quantities of aphids quickly

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CRYPTOLAEMUS MONTROUZIERI (MEALYBUG DESTROYER):

- This tiny black ladybug is highly effective against mealybugs. Both adults and larvae feed on them, with one larva consuming up to 250 mealybugs. They're attracted to the waxy secretions of mealybugs.
- Release 2-5 Mealybug Destroyers per infested plant.

LADYBUGS (HIPPODAMIA CONVERGENS):

- Well-known for eating mealybugs, ladybugs can consume over 5,000 pests during their one-year lifetime.
- For Ladybugs, release around 1,500 for small indoor areas.

GREEN LACEWINGS (CHRYSOPA RUFILABRIS):

- Lacewing larvae, which resemble tiny alligators, attack mealybugs by paralyzing them and feeding on their fluids.
- Lacewing eggs or larvae can be sprinkled on plants, as they can search up to 100 feet for prey.
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IMPORTANT TIPS:

- Beneficial insects may take time to establish and control mealybug populations, so be patient.
- Regular releases and using a combination of different predators often provide the best results.
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