



Aphids

Main problem Species:

Peach aphid (*Myzus persicae*) and Potato aphid (*Myzus euphorbiae*) however, there are many species and sub species.

Lifecycle:

The lifecycle is complicated, for our purposes aphids give live birth to smaller juveniles. Once they reach a threshold population density winged adults develop and spread throughout the greenhouse.

Egg to egg:

Juveniles take about a week to mature, however their ability to give birth to multiple young simultaneously leads to the population doubling every 3 days @20°C.

Scouting tips:

Usually in the plant heads, large colonies develop rapidly, plant growth stunted, plants “sticky”. Interestingly aphids are “farmed” by ants which can be observed moving them around.

POTENTIAL CONTROL MEASURES:

- The parasitic wasp *Aphidius colemani*
- The parasitoid *Aphidius colemani*
- Multiple species of ladybird (for example *Scymnus Loewii*)
- Multiple species of lacewing *Mallada basalis*
- Physical mode of action spot sprays
- Agchem sprays (last resort as resistance develops rapidly)

What do I do?

Just a few:

Squash them, order predators to eradicate the survivors. It is recommended to make small, regular releases of *Aphidius colemani* early in the season as a preventative measure.

Doing damage:

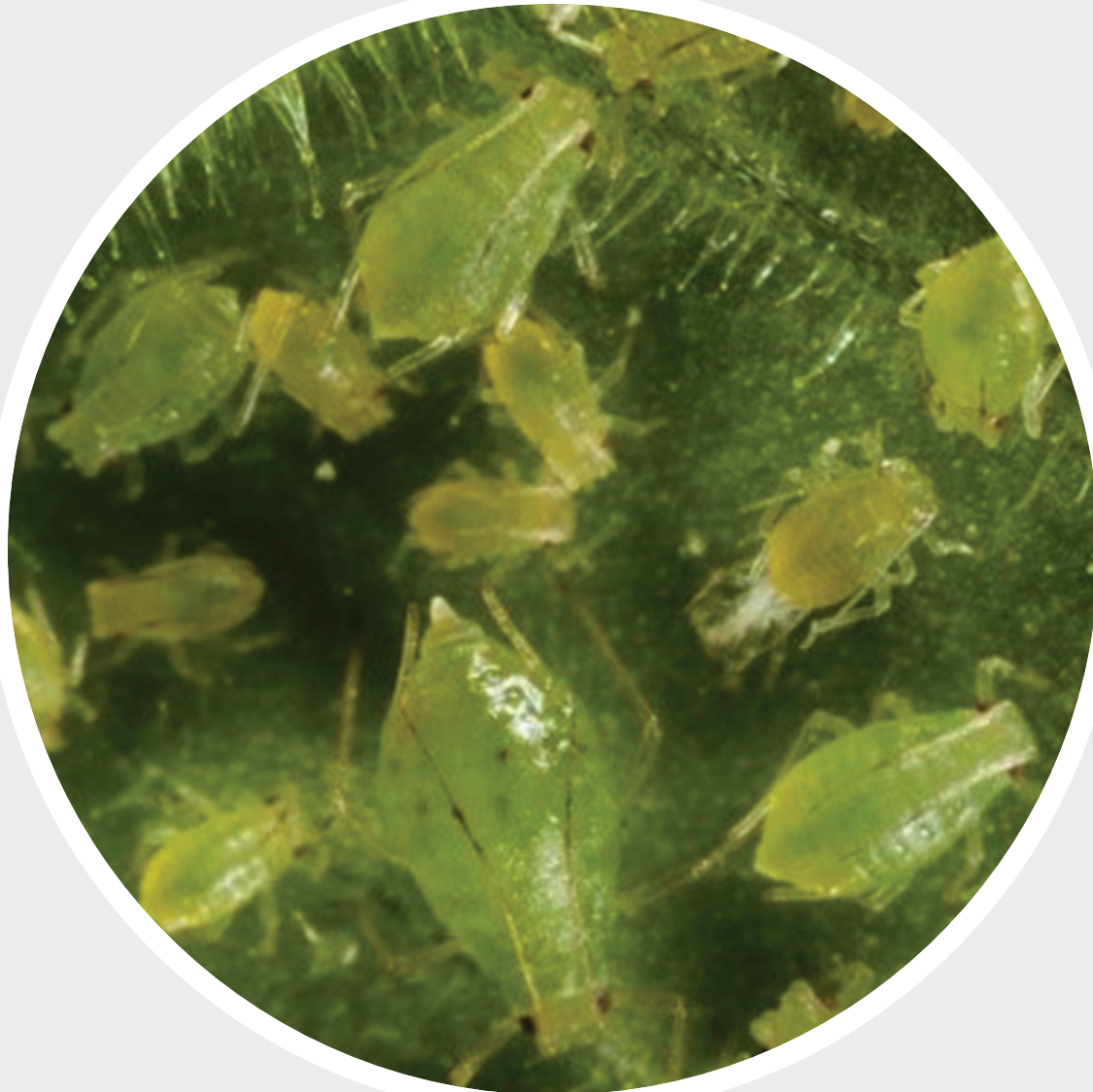
Physical mode of action spot spray all areas, then release predators.

Ongoing Issue:

Carefully select Agchem that is IPM compatible, apply, then release predators and build a population of them. Release predators regularly and early to prevent re-infestation.



What you'll observe:



Different stages of aphid

