

Description

Gaeolaelaps gillespiei is pear-shaped with long legs and is 1,0 mm long. Its color can vary from cream to brown. The immature stages are usually paler almost semi-transparent. The eggs are oval and measure 0.5 mm. *Geolaelaps gillespiei* looks very similar compared to *Stratiolaelaps scimitus* (*Hypoaspis miles*).

This predator is a native species, discovered and tested 30 years ago by Dave Gillespie of Agriculture Canada. While still not well known, it has proven to be very effective at controlling soil-dwelling flies. It consumes over 50% more fungus gnats compared to *Stratiolaelaps*.



Life cycle

- The optimum conditions are temperatures between 15 and 25 °C.
- The life cycle last approximately 18 days at 20 °C (68 °F).
- Sex ratio is equivalent, 1 female for 1 male.
- The eggs hatch after 2 to 3 days.
- Each *Gaeo* eats 7 fungus gnat larvae per day.
- For lack of food, it becomes a detritivore and feeds on algae and plant debris. On this diet, *Gaeo* will survive but they will not reproduce unless well fed.
- Becomes inactive at 14 °C.



Introduction rate

Introduction	Quantity	Surface	Frequency	Duration
Preventive	100	m ²	14-28 days	2 introductions in total
Curative	250	m ²	7-14 days	as needed

Application

Sprinkle *Gaeolaelaps* on different type of substrates such as potting soil, coconut fiber, rock wool, etc. In indoor productions, it is known to settle well in bedding, potted plants and propagation trays. *Gaeo* adapt well to the various growth media and capillary mats used in plant production, but do not survive freezing or flooding conditions.

This predatory mite is very mobile and it can be found on the substrate surface and even on the first leaves of the plant; if food is lacking. To properly establish *Gaeo*, always introduce twice, 2-3 weeks apart. Re-apply as needed if the pest population increases.



Formats

- AB009- *Gaeolaelaps gillespiei* - 25 000 adults
- AB088 - *Gaeolaelaps gillespiei* - 125 000 adults
- AB089 - *Gaeolaelaps gillespiei* - 250 000 adults

How to use

