



# *Dicyphus hesperus*

***Dicyphus hesperus*** is a bug that specializes in the control of whiteflies (whiteflies) and thrips.

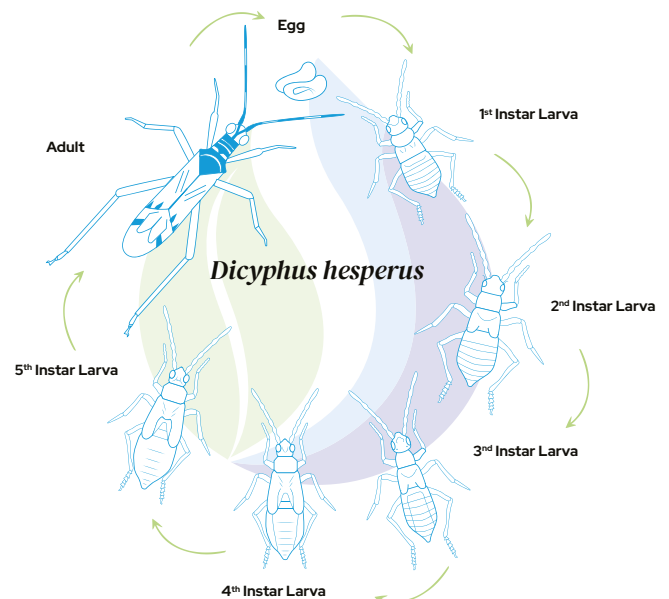
Both nymph and adult are predatory and very effective in reducing infestations of several species of whiteflies and thrip in tropical and semi-tropical ornamentals and vegetable crops.

The adult is elongated (6mm) and has large red eyes and is black and green in color. It has wings that allows them to fly.

The nymph resembles the adult, although smaller in size, it is green and undeveloped wings.

## Life cycle

- The life cycle lasts 5 weeks at 25°C and 8 weeks at 20°C.
- The optimal conditions are a temperature between 20 and 35°C , with humidity of 60% and higher.
- The female lays 3 eggs per day, for a total of 175 eggs in a lifetime.
- Eggs are laid in plant tissues; they emerge after 2 weeks.
- *Dicyphus* needs 13 hours of light and a temperature above 15°C
- *Dicyphus* can feed on the sap of plants, it can be contraindicated in certain ornamental crops (eg Gerbera).
- Use banker/mullein plants for best results (*Verbascum thapsus*).



## Introduction rate

Introduction	Quantity	Surface	Frequency	Duration
preventive	.25 - .05	per m <sup>2</sup>	Bi-Weekly	2 Introductions total



## Application

The establishment of this insect in the growing area allows constant pressure to be maintained and considerably reduces pest damage.


*Dicyphus* is successfully used in several large greenhouses in Canada.


*Dicyphus hesperus* gives good control of whiteflies in tomato production. On the other hand, when populations are high and prey becomes scarce, it can sting the mesophyll of the plant and damage the fruits.


This bug also helps to control thrips and aphids. Establishes in crops older than 7 months.


It is advisable to introduce *Ephesia* eggs on mullein bankers plants (*Verbascum thapsus*) for population conservation.

## Instructions

 Use insect on arrival. Do not refrigerate. Do not freeze. Do not open until in the acres to be treated

 Up to 10% mortality is normal.

 Open container and allow *Dicyphus* to come out on their own.

 Settlement takes a minimum of 6 weeks.

For best results plant mullein plants (*Verbascum thapsus*) in pots and add a food supplement.

