



Micromus variegatus

The Brown Lacewing (**Micromus variegatus**) is a delicate predator insect approximately 1.5 cm long.

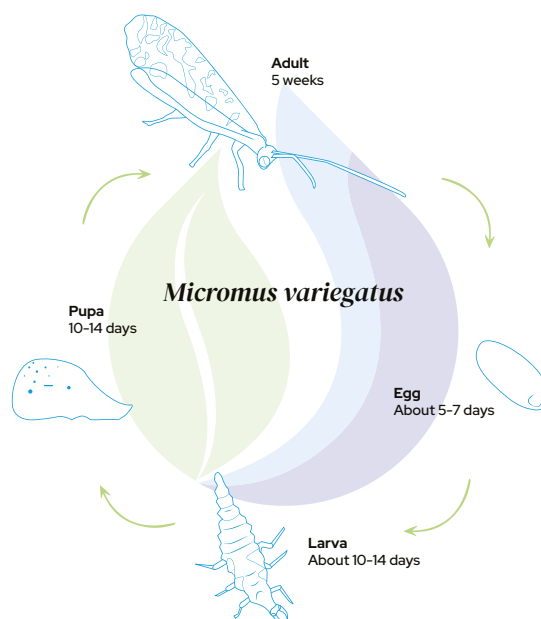
It is pale brown in color and has oval-shaped wings with small hairs on the surface. The eggs are pale brown and are laid at the base of plants. The larvae are brown and elongated. It has strong mandibles (mouthparts) which are used to catch its prey.

Adults and larvae are generalist predators. They mainly attack aphids, thrips, whiteflies, and other soft-bodied insects.

Brown Lacewings tolerate cool temperatures and can establish themselves in greenhouses.

Life cycle

- Optimal conditions: temperatures between 15°C and 26°C and a relative humidity of 30% or more.
- Is active in temperatures as low as 4°C and as high as 31°C.
- Females lay their eggs in the lower leaves.
- Each female lays between 100 to 150 eggs during her life.
- The larva can consume anywhere between 5 – 80 aphids per day.



Introduction rate

Introduction	Quantity	Area	Frequency	Duration
Preventive	0.01	Per m ²	As needed	As needed
Curative	1	Per m ²	As needed	As needed







Application

By the time the Brown Lacewings arrive, they will be ready to release. It is recommended to find an area low in the canopy of the crop, off the ground so it is protected, and simply remove the lid from the container.

You can remove or loosen some of the carrier material to help the adults emerge from the bottle. Adults are most active at night.

To improve dispersion and efficacy reduce fans speeds at night, if possible. This ensures little to no wind, so winged biologicals can get around with ease.

Instructions

-  Use insects upon receipt.
Less than 10% mortality is normal.
-  Do not freeze or refrigerate.
-  Open the container. Let the adult come out on their own.
-  Preventive introduction at a rate of 0.1 individuals/m² if the infestation is moderate to severe.

