MERCHANT'S GARDEN

CLIMATE-SMART URBAN AGRICULTURE

SUPPORTING HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED PRODUCERS

LIFE CYCLE

Thrips' life cycle starts with a larvae hatching from an egg laid by an adult, going through two feeding larval stages, followed by two non-feeding larval stages (pre-pupa & pupa), becoming adults in the last stage. Thrips can generally live up to 45 days, with females laying 2-10 eggs per day at 20°C.

CONTROLLING THRIPS

- Install a thrip net over your wet wall, or other entry points to the greenhouse. Not only does this help prevent thrips from entering the greenhouse but can stop whiteflies, moths, and aphids.
- Clean all dead plant material that may harbor eggs.
- Thrips reproduce faster at warmer temperatures and cannot develop under 10°C (50 F), consider reducing temperature to slow reproduction.
- Monitor with yellow sticky cards. It's best to be aware of an increase of thrips in the greenhouse. A large increase in stuck thrips is a strong sign that there may be an infestation.
- Check for thrips damage, thrips leave silvery speckles, white patches, and streaks.

ORGANIC CONTROL

Biological Insects

- Beneficial Nematodes (Steinernema feltiae)
- Minute Pirate bugs (Orius insidiosus)
- Spiders in the greenhouse
- Predaceous Mites (Amblyseius acrus)

Organic Sprays

- Neem Oil
- Pyrethrin (Extracted from Daisys)
- Insecticidal Soap
- Azadirachtin (Extracted from neem tree)

Non-Organic Chemical Control

- Neonicotinoid insecticides (Systemic Insecticide)

REFERENCES

Siders, K. (n.d.). Thrips. Extension Entomology. https://extensionentomology.tamu.edu/insects/thrips-2/

Thrips in Greenhouse Crops - Biology, Damage and Management. (n.d.). www.omafra.gov.on.ca. Retrieved March 31, 2022

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