



Cornell University

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Thrips

Pest & Natural Enemy ID
Greenhouse Scout School
Session 3: February 5, 2026

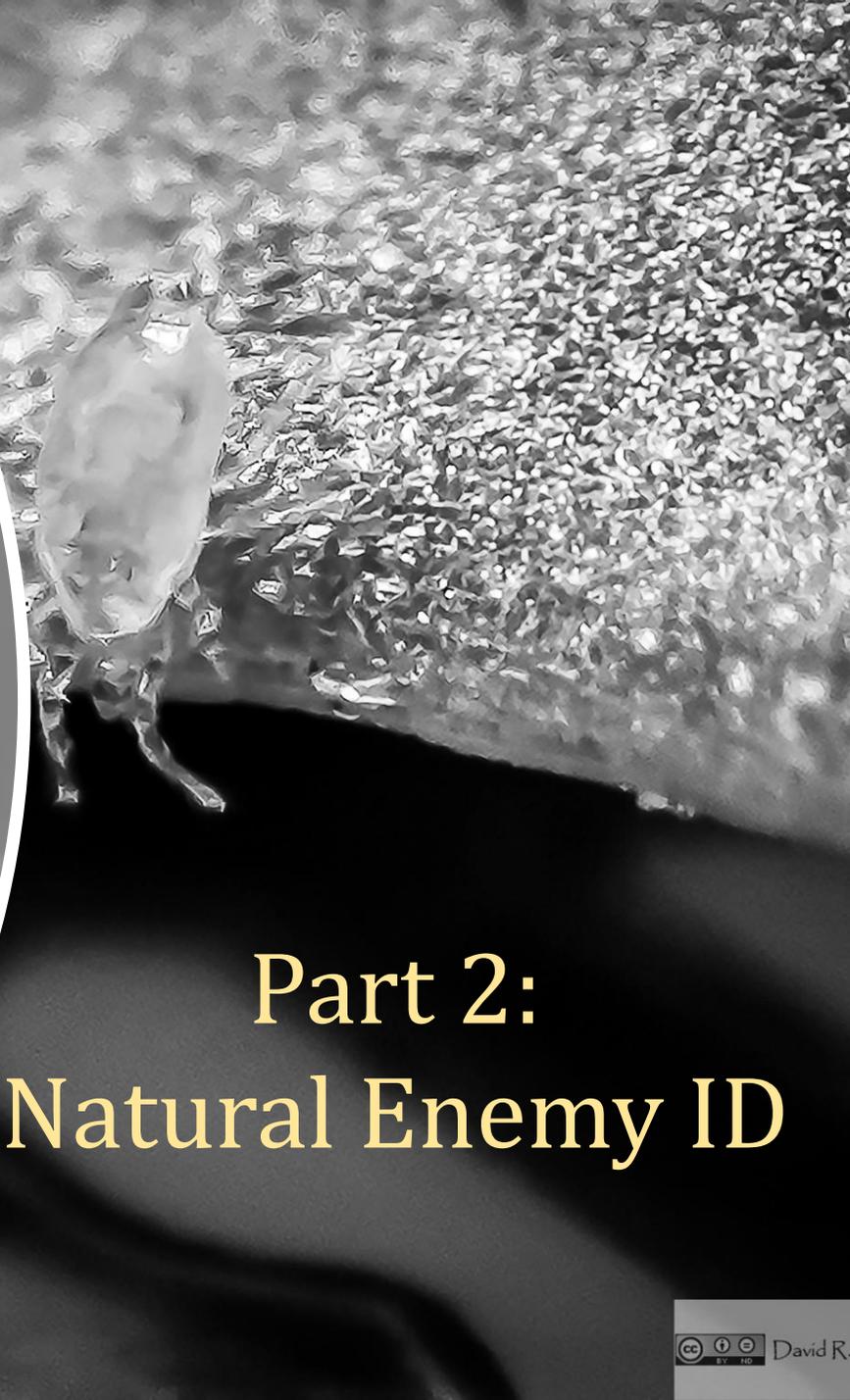
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Part 2: Natural Enemy ID

Dalotia coriaria

(Coleoptera: Staphylinidae)



Steinernema feltiae

(Rhabditida: Steinernematidae)



(© Koppert Biological Systems)

Stratiolaelaps scimitus

(Acari: Laelapidae)



© David R. Gillespie Applied Bio-nomics

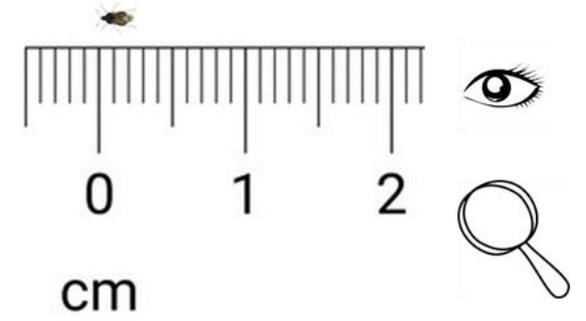


Orius insidiosus

(Hemiptera: Anthocoridae)

- Minute pirate bug
- Predator
- Pierces its prey with its mouthparts and sucks out body fluids
- Attacks thrips, aphids, mites and other soft-bodied pests

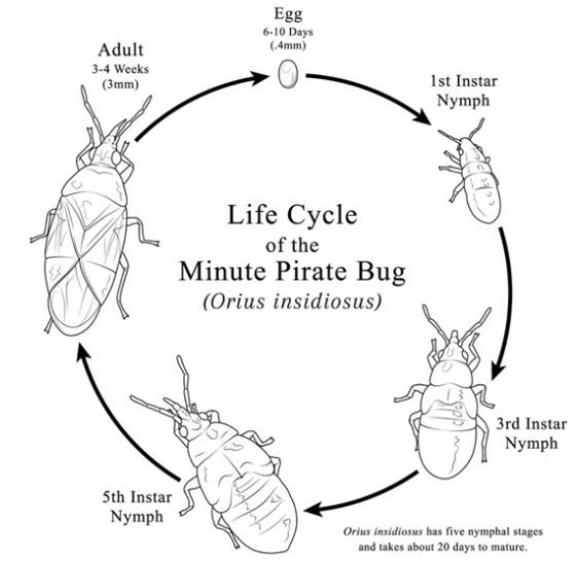




Appearance: Adults ~2-2.5 mm, distinctive black and white color pattern. Nymphs ~0.5 – 1.8mm (depending on age), yellow-brown/orangish color.

Life cycle: ~3 wks to complete at 70°F (21°C). Adults lay eggs in plant tissue and live ~ 3wks. Diapause in fall (& naturally occurring).

Monitoring: Often found in flowers with pollen or with prey, usually will only find one at a time (they may eat each other!), can get stuck on sticky cards.



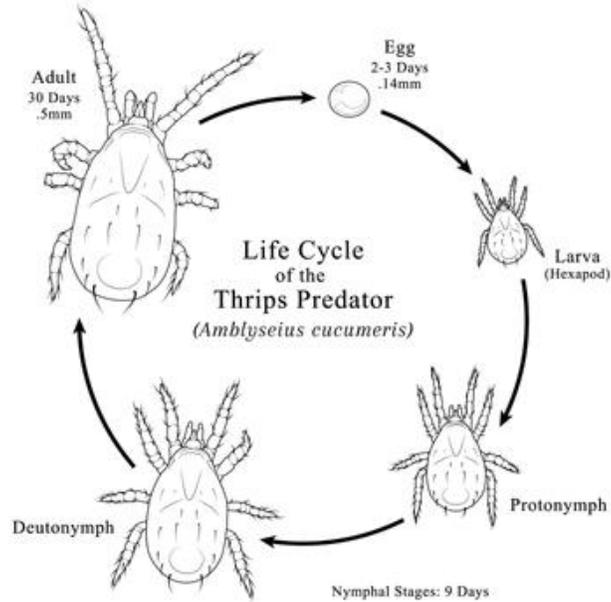
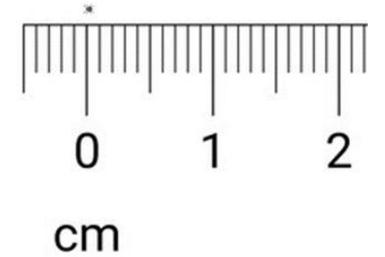


(Photos by Cheryl Frank Sullivan, Univ. of VT)



***Neoseiulus* (= *Amblyseius*) *cucumeris*
(Mesostigmata: Phytoseiidae)**

N. cucumeris



© Sound Horticulture
Illustrations by Morgan Malone

Appearance: Adults ~0.5mm, pear shaped, white-tan color. 8-legged. Eggs are oval, translucent, ~0.14mm

Life cycle: ~10-12 days to complete at 68°F (20°C). Eggs are laid on leaf hairs along the veins on the lower surface of leaves. Adults live ~ 30 days.

Monitoring: Foliar-dwelling. Use magnifier (10-15×). Often found in flowers with pollen or on leaf undersides with prey and observed after plant tapping over paper.



(Photo by Elise Lobdell)



(Photos by Cheryl Frank Sullivan, Univ. of VT)

Beauveria bassiana

(Hypocreales: Cordycipitaceae)

- Entomopathogenic (insect-killing) fungus.
- Microbial pesticide (biopesticide).
- Several strains available (i.e., GHA, Ant-03, PPRI-5339).
- Conidia/spores formulations like wettable powders or oil-based emulsifiable suspensions for foliar and soil applications.
- Spores germinate and penetrate exoskeleton, grow inside and release toxins killing pests, then emerge and sporulate to infect others.



Recap

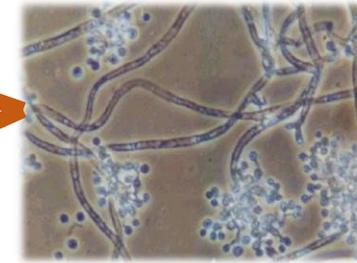
For thrips with both foliar and soil-dwelling stages.



O. insidiosus



N. cucumeris



B. bassiana

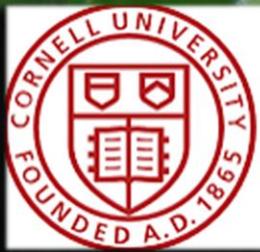


S. scimitus



D. coriaria

Thank You!



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This work is supported by the National Institute of Food & Agric., U.S. Dept. of Agric., through the Northeast Sustainable Agric. Research & Education program under subaward number ONE22-419), UVM Extension and College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

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