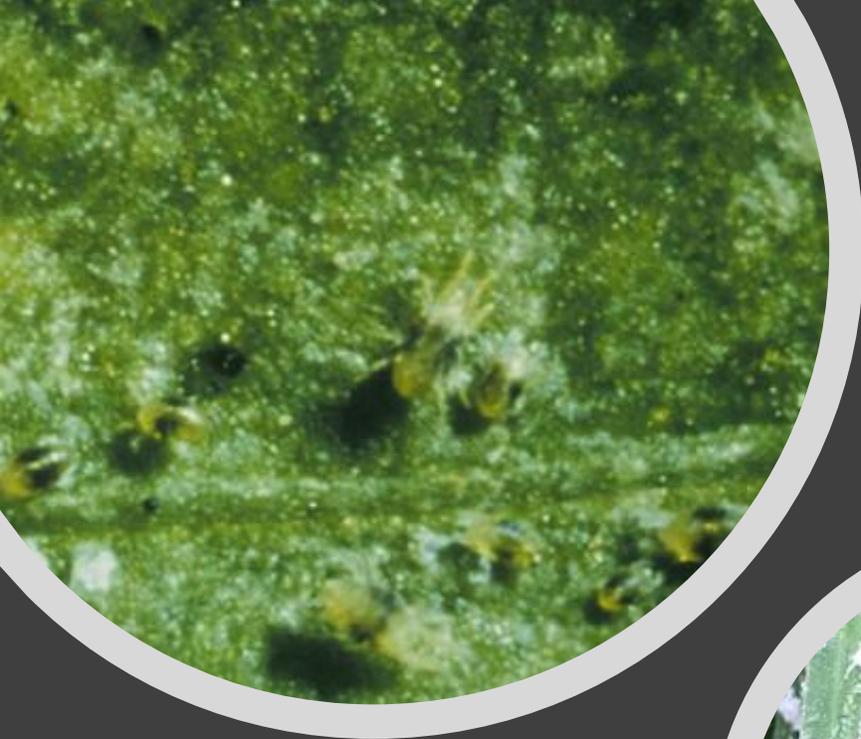


Review of Arthropod Pest Issues that Show Up in Greenhouses (in order of appearance in the Northeast)



- Fungus Gnats & Shore Flies
- Thrips
- Broad Mites
- Aphids
- Spider Mites
- Whiteflies
- Mealybugs & Scale

Elise Lobdell

Greenhouse Scout School

Session 6: February 26, 2026

Fungus Gnats & Shore Flies

A function of exposed soil, time of year & moisture management





SPACING Min: 12" Max: 14"
Min: 30.5 cm Max: 61.0 cm
ZONES Annual except in zones T0a-11
Hardy to 30°F /
Annual excepto en zonas 10a-11
Resistente a -1.1°C



Thrips

First plants to have thrips in the Spring

- Draceanas, spikes
- Ivy geraniums (esp. Balcon types and Cascades, those with lacier leaves) - Thrips will be found in the smallest open leaf
- Vinca vine
- Verbena
- Sweet potato vines (Ipomoea), esp. lime green ones (Margarite types)
- Scaevola
- Gerberas
- Lantanas
- Peppers

Other thrips-prone plants (Not an exhaustive list!)

- Agerathemum
- Bidens
- Dahlia
- Draceanas
- Rudbeckia
- Verbena
- Bacopa
- Chrysanthemum

Plants that get thrips but don't show damage right away

- All the grey and fuzzy leafed species: (Ageratum, dusty miller, artemesias, helicysums (licorice))
- Draceanas, spikes
- Vinca vines
- Thick-leaved species such as succulents, mandevillas, diplodemias (these tough leaves don't show feeding damage as much)



E Lobdell Image

Important to check these plants because they may have thrips but not show the damage



Broad Mites

Host list:

- New Guinea Impatiens
- Bacopa
- Nemesia
- Angelonia
- Torenia
- Regal geraniums
- Tuberous begonias, non-stops
- Others



Photo by Cheryl Sullivan, UVM



Photos by Elise Lobdell

Aphids

Common Hosts:

- Weeds!!
- Pansies
- Fuchsias
- Daylilies (if overwintered)
- Calibrachos
- Peppers
- Eggplants
- Ipomoea
- Vinca vine
- Salvias
- Portulacas
- Geranium (foxglove)



Spider Mites

Host list:

- Ivy geraniums
(sometimes zonals)
- Dahlias
- English Ivies
- Mandevillas
- Dipladenias
- Hibiscus (often from FL)
- New Guinea impatiens
- Roses and mini-roses
- Lamium
- Sweet potato vine
- Thunbergia
- Spikes
- Gerberas
- Salvias
- Hops
- Many, many others



Full Bloom is Too Late!

Photo by Elise Lobdell

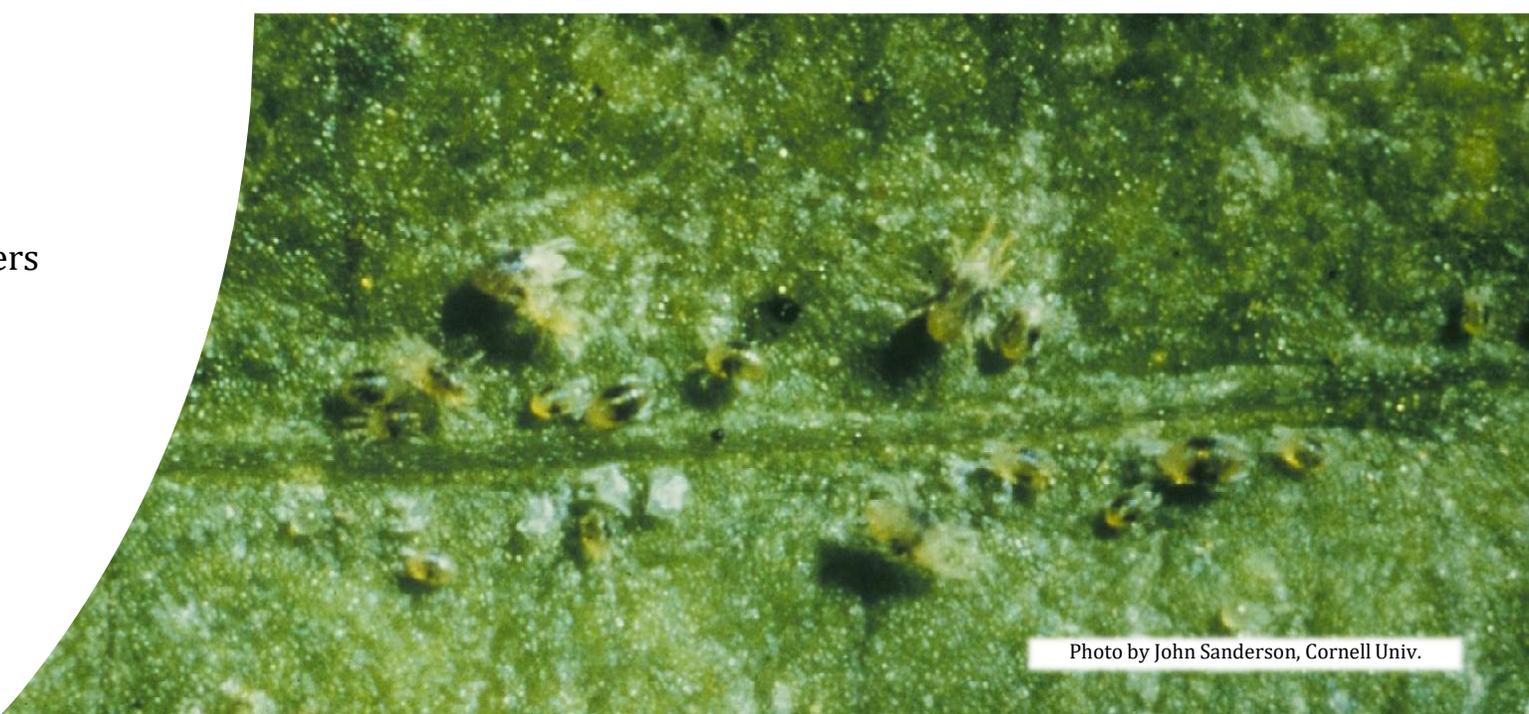


Photo by John Sanderson, Cornell Univ.

Whiteflies

Host list:

- Poinsettias
- Sweet potato vines
- Chenille
- Euphorbias (Diamond Frost, Diamond Snow-types)
- Weeds
- Hibiscus
- Heliotrope
- Lantana
- Herbs - esp. sage
- Gerberas
- Crossandra
- Scented geraniums



Scale & Mealybugs

Host list:

Scale - Usually start on woodier foliage plants but will become widespread if unnoticed.

- Ficus
- Scheffleras
- Arborcolas
- English ivies
- Several Tropicals

Mealybugs

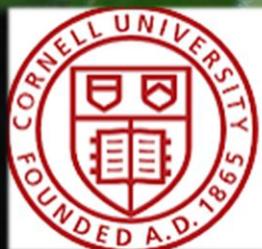
- Succulents & sedums (especially any Jade-types and Echeverias)
- Foliage plants
- Will become widespread if unnoticed

Best to keep foliage plants & tropicals away from your main crops!

Photo by Cheryl Sullivan (UVM)

Photo by Elise Lobdell

Thank You!



Cornell University



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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