

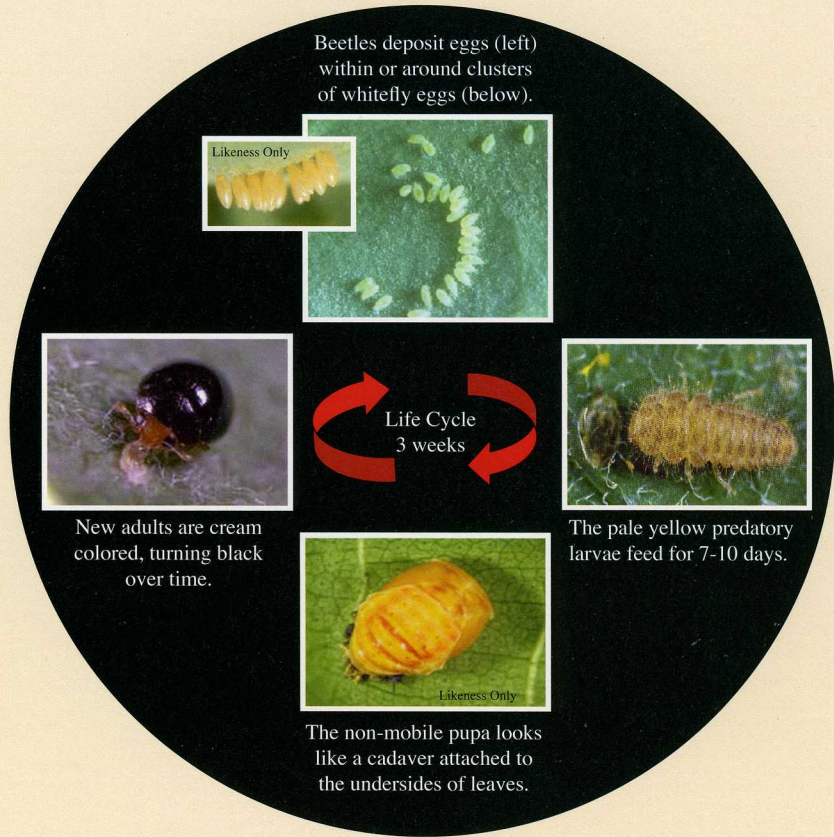
DELPHASTUS

Adults and larvae of this ladybeetle attack eggs and nymphs of greenhouse and silverleaf whitefly, consuming up to 10,000 eggs over its life. Adults are shiny black with a reddish orange head; larvae are pale yellow. Adults are strong fliers, detecting prey by smell. Females must eat 100 prey daily to reproduce, so beetles will not persist without the host. Beetles recognize and avoid parasitized whiteflies, so they can be used together with parasitic wasps (*Encarsia* and *Eretmocerus*).



Delphastus (0.06 in. long) feeding on whitefly.

Species commercially available:
Delphastus pusillus (= *catalinae*)



Photos by Jack Kelly Clark, UC IPM Program, Bradley Higbee, John Ruberson, and Ken Grey.
© C.E. Frank & M. Skinner, University of Vermont, Entomology Research Laboratory, 2006