Insect ID Tools to Increase Scouting Success

Greenhouse IPM Workshops January 8-10, 2019

Manchester, ME Durham, NH Burlington, VT



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Today's Objectives

(now and after lunch)

- Why we scout
- Overview of helpful tools for scouting, old and new
 - Save time and effort in scouting
 - Improve fidelity of record keeping
- Getting a good photo to share
 - Magnification gadgets
 - Key features



Scouting and Record Keeping

- Pest status is site specific
 - Greenhouse pests are not as predictable as pests that occur in an open setting
- Identify sources of infestation
 - Weak points in sanitation, pest movement
 - Supplier relations

FLASH LO

- Record of what has worked in the past
- Pre-emptive strike with biological control

Develop a scouting program that fits your operation



Scouting to Reduce Chemical Pesticide Use in Greenhouse Ornamentals

Attention Growers! Did you know that scouting your crop can help you find problem areas and allow you to make more timely interventions for management before things get totally out of control? Have you ever wanted to come up with a scouting routine or modify your existing one? The following steps and handouts will guide you step by step on how to come up with the most efficient way that works for you!



Step 1: Establishing a Scouting Program - Step by Step - This handout will guide you through how to use the following steps and supporting documents.

Step 2: Come up with early and late season Action Thresholds (<u>Handout 1</u>)

Step 3: Choose a scouting form that best suits your needs. Handouts 2a and 2b are intentionally blank so you can draft your own plan if you choose not to adopt one of the example forms below.

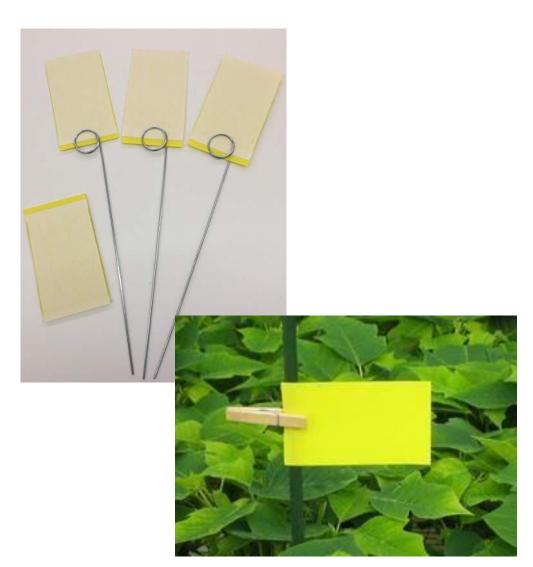
For example: Inspect incoming plant material for aphids, mealybugs, whitefly nymphs and adults, signs of insect feeding damage (holes, distorted growth) or disease (soft spots, fuzzy stuff)

- Place one sticky card per 1000 sq.ft. of GH space, observe weekly, change cards as needed
 - Winged aphids
 - Adult thrips, whiteflies
 - Fungus gnats, shore flies
- Weekly inspection of plant material
 - Signs of damage, honeydew
 - Inspect new growth and the undersides of leaves for aphids, mealybugs, mites
 - For flowering crops, tap flowers over white paper for thrips nymphs and adults
- Hot spots (e.g. near vents, weeds, indicator plants)
- Inspection of a set number of plants, throughout space

Tools for monitoring with sticky cards

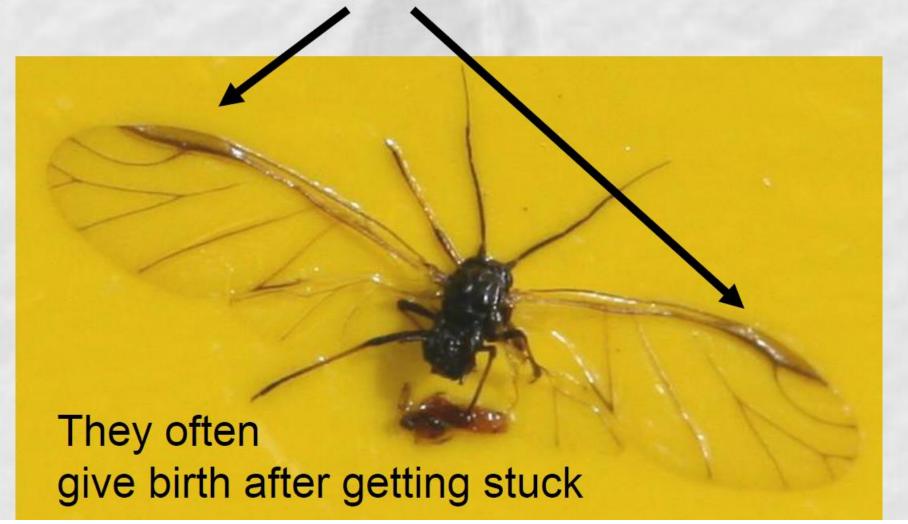
- Stakes & Clips
 - Trap placement
- Yellow v. Blue





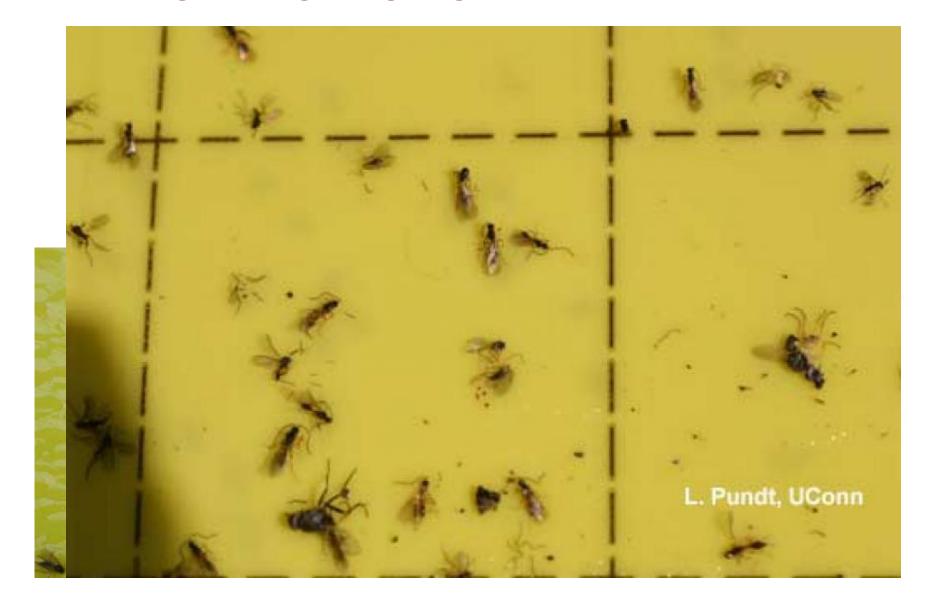
Aphids that are winged show:

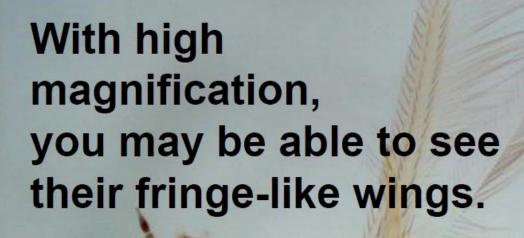
- 1. few veins, many being parallel
- 2. large thick spot towards forewing tip





Distinguishing fungus gnats from look-a-likes





Western flower Thrips
Jack Reed, Mississippi State Univ
bugwood.org







Something white for tapping







Indicator plants

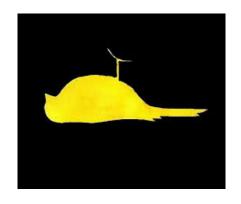




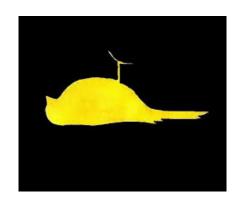
Fig. 1. Eggplant indicator plant for whiteflies in poinsettias.



Fig. 2. Bean trap plant for spider mites.

Indicator plants

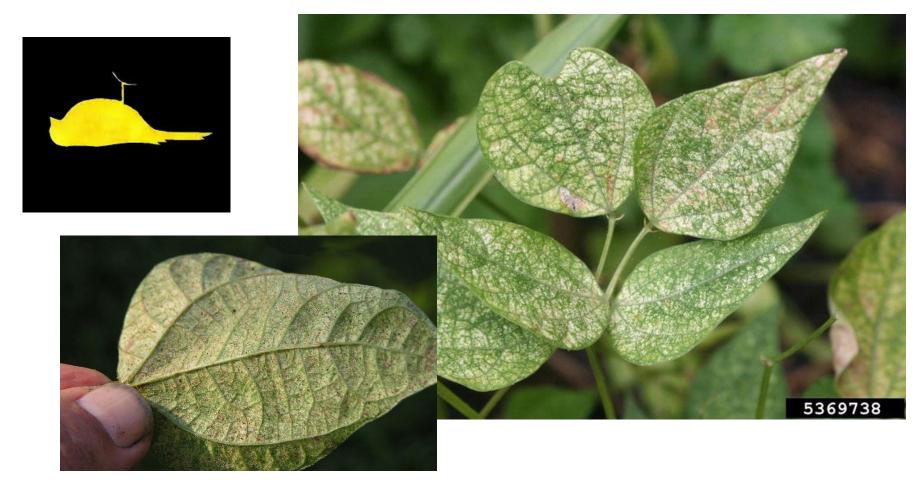
Thrips Damage





Indicator plants

Spider Mite Damage



Tools for record keeping

- Good Training
- Consistency
 - Zeros are data too!





Tools for record keeping

 Pocket IPM Greenhouse Scout Mobile App (\$9.99)

Created by New York State IPM

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or



Who are we?

Greenhouse Scout

The idea for Greenhouse Scout came from the work of Elizabeth Lamb and Brian Eshenaur.

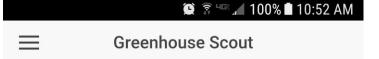
What is IPM?

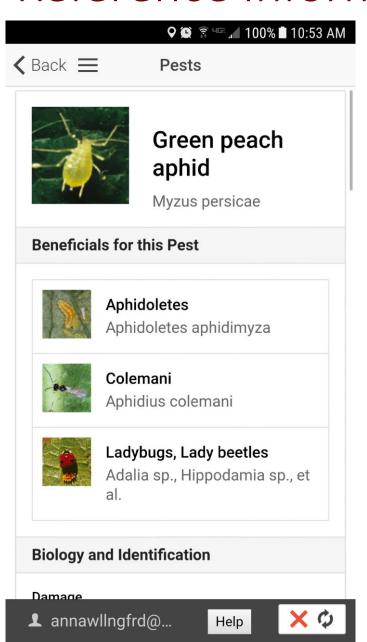
Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a method of disease, insect, weed and animal

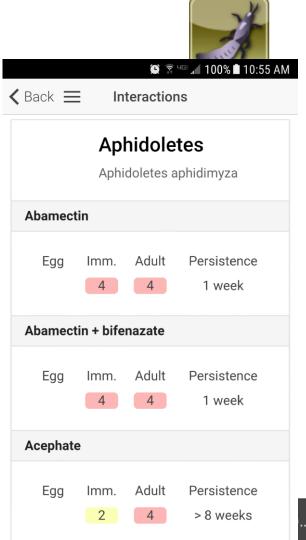
What is Greenhouse Scout?

The Greenhouse Scout™ mobile application has been designed to provide an easily accessible

Reference Information







Help

▲ annawllngfrd@...



Beneficials



Application



Pesticide Interactions





Record Keeping



Getting a good photo

- Another way to record damage
- Sharing photos
 - Training your people to identify damage
 - Sharing with extension professionals





Magnification Gadgets

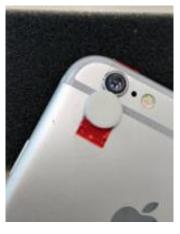
- Existing camera phone
- Lens to enhance camera phone
- Digital microscope for computer, phone





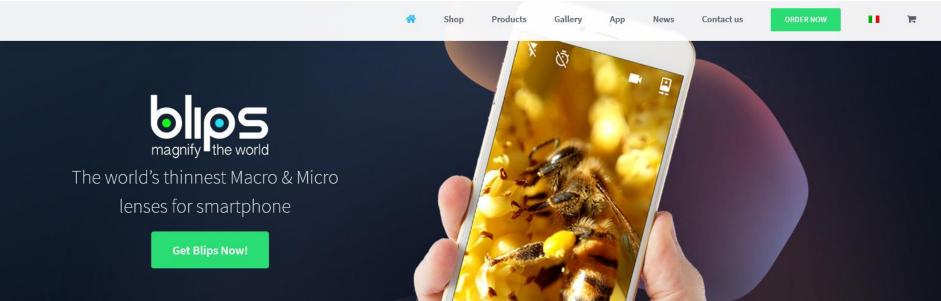


blips ~\$15 smartmicrooptics.com





- macro (green)
 - Magnification 10X
 - Working distance ~1/2"
- macro plus (yellow)
 - Magnification 5X
 - Working distance ~3/4"



Digital Microscopes

- Use with computer, laptop, tablet, phones, etc.
- Range in price from cheap (\$20-50) to pricey (~\$500)

More range in working distance

LED Light

Models vary in how they are powered and how they communicate with camera

- USB
- mini-USB
- Wi-Fi signal



Features we look for:

(i.e. things that should be in focus and not covered up by other body parts/insects)

- Antennae
- Wings
- Abdomen
- Mouthparts



Hands on Demo Pests & Natural Enemies







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