Identifying the Good, the Bad & the Ugly

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Session Format

- Break into 4 groups
- Cover 4 general pest-natural enemy associations (~10 min in each) focusing on some commercially available natural enemies.
- Brief review on screen then perform hands on activities



Why Id Anyways?

- If you use natural enemies, some are generalists (attack many) and some are specialists (attack few or one). Don't make an expensive mistake!
- Knowing, scouting & monitoring for pests & natural enemies critical for successful management program
 - Know their life cycles at what stages do pests get attacked/natural enemies attack
 - How many plants are infested & at what magnitude
 - Keep track of when management occurred, rates used & effectiveness
- Where & how to look
 - Leaf undersides, growth tips, tap blossoms to dislodge arthropods
 - Use magnifying apparatus (hand lens) properly
- When in doubt, call a specialist (University Extension or Biocontrol Supplier)



Lens



Adjust the distance between the specimen and the magnifier until the specimen is in focus

Spider Mites ~ Damage





Yellow stippling visible on leaf surfaces

Webbing





Yellow flecking on fruits



Spider Mites ~ Natural Enemies: Id

The Pest



2 dark spots

mosquito like adult

red overwintering phase Predatory midge (fly)

Predatory as yellow-brown maggot/larva



Feltiella acarisuga

Predatory Mites



Phytoseiulis persimilis



(Specialist – eats only SM – bright red color – fast moving)

(Generalists – eats SM, other small arthropods & pollen – tan/yellow colors – fast moving)

Neoseiulus (Amblyseius) californicus & fallacis

Thrips ~ Damage





Silver patches with black dots (frass)



Virus symptoms (TSWV)

Distortion, yellowing & flecking of fruits



Thrips ~ Natural Enemies: Id The Pests

Predatory Mite

Thrips tabaci (Onion) & *Frankliniella* spp. (Flower)





(minute pirate bug/insidious flower bug)

Whiteflies ~ Damage



Irregular ripening of fruit









Leaf curling & yellowing/chlorosis (from feeding or viruses)

Sooty mold on leaves from honeydew excretion

Whiteflies ~ Natural Enemies: Id





Adult Nymph

Adults have flat wing shape

Bemisia spp.

(Silverleaf/Sweetpotato)





Nymphs cake shaped & hairy





Parasitic Wasps



Adults have tent wing shape

Nymphs pancake shaped

(specialists)



Prefers SWF - adults lemon yellow - parasitized pupae turn gold

Encarsia formosa

Prefers GWF - adults black & yellow - parasitized nymphs turn black





Eretmocerus eremicus

Aphids ~ Damage



Honeydew & Sooty mold



Cast skins



Distortion





Aphids ~ Natural Enemies: Id

Adult

The Pests

Aulacorthum solani (Foxglove)



Pale green, yellow & shiny color, parallel-slightly divergent tubercles, dark spots at cornicle bases

Macrosiphum euphorbiae (Potato)



Pink, green color, parallel-slightly divergent tubercles, slender, pear shaped body, very long cornicles

Myzus persicae (Green peach)



Green, pink, orange color, converging inward (W) tubercles, long cornicles with black tips

Aphis gossypii (Melon)



Green, yellow color, undeveloped, flat tubercles, short, dark cornicles

Please view anatomy handout on table

Predatory Green Lacewings

Chrysoperla rufilabris



Predatory as larva

Adult

Parasitic Wasps (specialists)

Aphidius colemani (green peach & melon) Aphidius ervi (potato & foxglove)





Larvae-pupae develop within aphid 'mummy'

Predatory fly

Aphidoletes aphidimyza (many aphids)







Aphelinus abdominalis (potato & foxglove)

Thank You! Please Contact Us Anytime!

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For more information please view High Tunnel Tomato Pests & Their Natural Enemies presented at the 2016 High Tunnel Conference: https://www.uvm.edu/~entlab/High%20Tunnel%20IPM/Presentations/TomatoHighTunnelPests&NatEn-Dec2016Final.pdf











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Wingless adult (aptera)



Thrips Anatomy

Western Flower Thrips (Frankliniella occidentalis)

Ocelli: red



Antennae: 8 segments

Pronotum: 5 pairs of distinct long hairs with smaller hairs between.



Onion Thrips (Thrips tabaci)

Antennae: 7 segments



Ocelli: pale



Pronotum: 2 pairs distinct long hairs with smaller hairs between on rear corner.

