



12:00 to 12:30 Eastern

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL ON HERBS

Stanton Gill
University of Maryland Extension
sgill@umd.edu





- Start with making a list of key herbs that you grow.
- Note which ones had problems in other years with certain insects and mites.
- Decide what your "Problem Children" are and monitor them closely



- Spider mite prone herbs:
- Mints
- Sage
- Lemon grass
- Lemon balm
- Hyssop
- Winter Savory







Biological control for mites: Amblyseius californicus released after Phytoseilus persimilis (5 – 6 per sq ft) of area.





- Low risk chemicals that control spider mites:
- Azadirachtin (Azatin, Econem, Neemix, Orzazin, Neemazod)
- Horticultural oils (PureSpray, SuffOil-X)
- Insecticidal soaps (M-Pede, Concern, DES-X)





- Best control: Don't bring it into the greenhouse
- Low risk pesticide control:
- Azadirachtin (Azatin, Neemazod, Aza-Direct, Neemix, Ecozin)





- Control options:
- Low risk insecticides: Spinosad (Conserve , Entrust).
- Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) (Dipel, Caterpillar Attack and many other names)

Some insects are wide generalist that hit many herbs – insects such as thrips



Thrips prone herbs

- Tarragon
- Lavender
- Rosemary
- Basil

- If you start you own plugs then place piles of *Amblyseius cucumeris*, predacious mite, (200 per flat) on plug flats.
- This establishes predactious mites on plants that are moved into the high tunnels

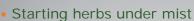






Thrips control

Use pepper plants as Banker plants.
 Plants are inoculated with Orius insidious (Minute Pirate Bugs). Continues to provide thrips control through late spring, summer into fall. Best banker pepper plant is 'Purple flash". Start plants in January





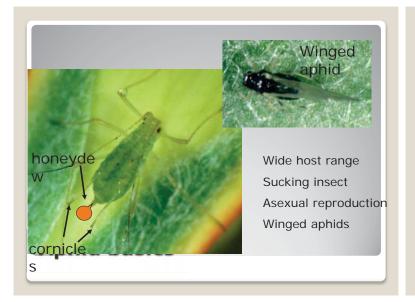
- S. feltiae (entomopathogenic
- nematodes weekly
- N. cucumeris (predacious mites
- broadcast weekly (3x)
- Finishing herb crop use:
 - Amblyseius cucumeris mini-sachets
 - S. feltiae (entomopathogenic
 - nematode) weekly

Thrips control: Misting to finishing

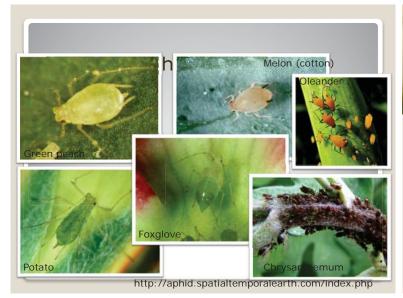


Aphid prone herb plants

- Lemon Verbena
- Oregano
- Basil
- Sage









- Aphids.
- The green peach aphid is found on tip growth and populations can explode in spring (March through – early June).
- Look for the long cornicles on the rear end with black tips and notch head area between the antennae





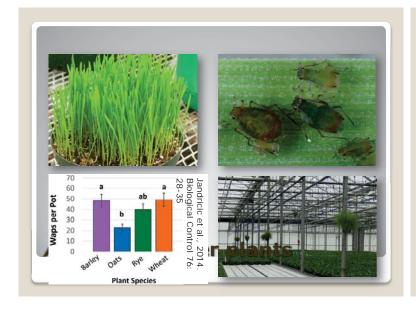




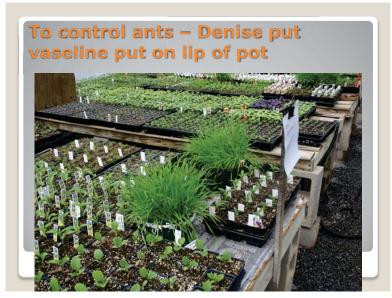


• If you are thinking of trying biological control of aphids, plan to start your either barley, rye or oats plants in January or February to get the bird cherry oat aphid population established early. It is important to get the parasitic wasp established early in the season before aphids can become established in the greenhouse. - See more at:

http://extension.umd.edu/IPM learn/using-banker-plants-aphid-control-greenhouses









Question and Answer Time



BioControl in the Greenhouse



Coming Up Next: 12:30 to 12:55 Eastern Lunch Break

12:55 to 1:00	Welcome Back/Questions
1:00 to 1:25	Proactive Approach with a Biological Control Strategy
1:30 to 1:55	Grower Experience with Banker Plants for Aphid Control
2:00 to 2:25	Pesticides- Are They Ever Compatible with a Biocontrol Program?
2:30 to 2:55	The Fundamentals of Biocontrol of Fungal and Bacterial Diseases
3:00 to 3:25	Case Studies of Using Biocontrol for Disease Control in Greenhouse Crops
3:30 to 3:45	Wrap-up/ Questions