

Mealybug destroyer *Cryptolaemus*



BUGS
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BUGS

Cryptolaemus
adult beetle

photo Denis Crawford - www.graphicsscience.com.au

Cryptolaemus

- are Australian native ladybird beetles
- devour several mealybug species
- have been successfully introduced to many countries around the world



Cryptolaemus larvae
feeding on mealybugs



mealybugs in grape vine

Mealybugs

- are common pests of many crops and ornamental plants
- cause damage to plants & fruit
- produce large quantities of sooty mould
- are difficult to control chemically due to their cryptic habit, waxy covering and resistance to pesticides

***Cryptolaemus*...**
a sustainable solution to mealybug problems

bugsforbugs.com.au

Guide to release

These rates are a guide only - need will vary with crop and infestation levels.

- *With all biological control agents it is best to release early before pests build up to damaging levels.*
- *Make 3 releases 2 weeks apart.*
- *Concentrate larvae into 'hot spots'.*

Greenhouse

Low level infestation

- 1 tube / 100m²

High level infestation

- 1 tube / 40m²

+ additional hotspot releases as required



Release tube containing 200 Cryptolaemus larvae



Cryptolaemus larvae hungry to feed

Orchard & Field

Low level infestation

- 5-10 tubes / Ha

High level infestation

- 20+ tubes / Ha

+ additional hotspot releases as required

Call to discuss your crop and individual needs....07 4165 4663

Other notes

Cryptolaemus are supplied as the larval stage. They should be placed on or near mealybugs in the crop. The larvae will start feeding immediately on mealybugs and complete their development to become adult beetles which mate and continue the cycle. Releasing at the larval stage helps improve the establishment of cryptolaemus in your crop.