Product data sheet

Spidex Vital Plus

Phytoseiulus persimilis | Predatory mite



- For the control of spider mite only
- Introduced mites turn from white to red after feeding on spider mites
- Not effective under (extremely) dry and warm conditions

Use for

Pests

Two spotted spider mite (*Tetranychus urticae*) and other *Tetranychus* spp., except *Tetranychus evansi*.

How it works

Mode of action

Predatory mites multiply in the sachet and disperse into the crop over a period of several weeks. They pierce their prey with their sucking mouthparts and suck out the contents.

Appearance

Mobile stages in the crop are orange-red, round, with long legs. Adults are approx. 0.6 mm in size. Eggs are pink, oval and slightly bigger than spider mite eggs. The predatory mites in Spidex Vital are translucent white upon arrival, due to the fact they have not been feeding on spider mites yet. As soon as they start feeding on spider mites they get their typical orange-red colour.



Egg of *Tetranychus urticae* (left) and *Phytoseiulus persimilis* (right)



Phytoseiulus persimilis nymph



Phytoseiulus persimilis adult (red)



Phytoseiulus persimilis adult (translucent white)



Phytoseiulus persimilis preying on spider mite



Watch the biological control video of Spidex.

Product specifications

Pack size
250 sachets. Each sachet contains 250 predatory mites.

Presentation
Sachets in cardboard box.

Developmental stage
All stages.

Carrier
Wood-chips.

Food
Dead *Carpoglyphus lactis* eggs.

Directions for use

Application
- Hang sachets in and around spider mite hotspots, in sheltered locations in the crop, not exposed to direct sunlight
- Sachets already have an exit hole
- Hold sachets by the cardboard strip at the top, to avoid damaging the predatory mites

Dosage
The dosage of Spidex Vital Plus depends on climate, crop and pest density and should always be adjusted to the particular situation. Release should be repeated biweekly if the pest is not controlled. Consult a Koppert advisor or a recognized distributor of Koppert products for
advice on the best strategy for your situation.

Environmental conditions
Phytoseiulus persimilis is most effective at temperatures between 13 and 27°C (55 and 81°F) and not effective above 30°C/86°F. *Phytoseiulus persimilis* is sensitive to relative humidity below 70%.

Combined use
Can be combined with *Neoseiulus californicus* and *Feltiella acarisuga.*

Side effects
Pesticides can have (in)direct effects on biological solutions. Find out which pesticides have side effects on this product.

Product handling

Storage time after receipt
Apply as soon as possible after receipt. If necessary, the product can be stored for 1-2 days.

Storage temperature
8-10°C/47-50°F.

Storage conditions
In the dark.

Notes

Phytoseiulus persimilis only feeds on spider mites, preferably on *Tetranychus* spp. It cannot survive on other food sources in the crop.

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