

FUNGUS GNAT

Sciaroidea family

Also known as fungus flies, these small, winded insects hang around damp soil or new plants that are planted in rich organic matter.

Fungus gnats do not harm humans but can be very annoying when they fly around our house plants. They are very tiny and only about the size of a fruit fly.

Fungus Gnats are attracted to the moisture and organic matter in potting mixes. Adults lay up to 200 eggs just below the soils surface which after 3 days hatch into larvae. The larvae feed on breaking down organic matter in the soil or decaying roots. Large populations can become a problem if they start feeding on fresh young roots.

PREVENTION

Soil that is too wet is a perfect breeding ground for fungus gnats.

Keep your indoor plant (other than ferns) on the dry side and water sparingly. Check the moisture of your soil by sticking your finger into the soil, if your finger comes out clean it means it is ready to water. Also, if you are able, gently lift the pot to check its weight. If the pot is light, you can water your potted plant.

Water moisture meters are a great tool to help with correct watering.

TREATMENT

Place a 3cm layer of Yates Gnat Barrier on top of the soil. <u>Gnat Barrier</u> is made from natural abrasive pumice granules, which provide an effective physical barrier against fungus gnats.

Spray <u>GroSure Houseplant Insect Control Spray</u> around both soil and plants to control Gnat infestations.

Spray around the soil of the affected plant's with <u>DEEM</u> spray. This product is organic with a blend of Debug and small amounts of neem oil. Note that this product will leave a white residue on the soils surface.

Easy Trap yellow sticky traps are great, Gnats are attracted to the yellow traps and when they land on them they get stuck on the glue on the trap.



FUNGUS GNAT PRODUCT RECOMMENDATIONS

Shop the Kings online store for all your gardening needs



KIWICARE HOUSEPLANT INSECT CONTROL SPRAY

A spray specifically designed to control houseplant insects. Easy to apply, simply spray problem areas of affected plants.



YATES GNAT BARRIER

Yates Gnat Barrier granules create a physical barrier against fungus gnats.



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