MEALYBUG

Common name for many of the small insects in the family Pseudococcidae

The females are small sap sucking unarmoured scale insects. However unlike most scale insects they often retain legs and the ability to crawl around. The males are smaller, gnat like and can fly around.

The female Mealybugs are covered by pale or white thread or powder-like coatings, and can often be found feeding from stems or leaves. They will also attack the roots and bulbs of some plants.

When feeding they excrete honeydew, a sweet sticky substances. This sometimes attracts wasps and ants, and also provides a medium for sooty mould to grow on. While feeding they weaken the plants and can spread diseases.

Can be difficult to kill as they often infest hard to reach places.

PREVENTION

Mealy Bug like to hide in nooks and crannies and hard to get to places, in hot sheltered areas. Inspect plants regularly, Ants are a good indicator that pests are present. It is much easier to control Mealy Bug in the early stages rather than when the plant is heavily infested.

Mealy Bug can infect weeds in your garden also, so by keeping weed numbers down you will reduce the chance of desirable plants being infected.

Natural predators such as lacewings and ladybirds can help control numbers. To attract beneficial insects into the garden plant flowers such as echinacea, alyssum, borage, lavender, rosemary, and thyme.

NATURAL TREATMENT

Mealy Bug are notoriously hard to control due to their waxy coating and the crevices' they hide in. Most insecticides that kill Mealy Bug work by contacting the insect, so good coverage is essential.

Spray with Bugtrol ensuring that you thoroughly coat the back of the leaves and the stems.

When using sprays and chemicals always read the label and follow instructions carefully. Spray in the evening to avoid harming beneficial insects.

OTHER TREATMENT

Mealy Bug can be difficult to treat. Use the systemic Groventive spray with BioNeem added to the water, on all your ornamental plants, including indoor plants. Do not use on edible plants.

When using sprays and chemicals always read the label and follow instructions carefully. Spray in the evening to avoid harming beneficial insects.

MEALYBUG
PRODUCT RECOMMENDATIONS

Shop the Kings online store for all your gardening needs

AQUATICUS BUGTROL CONCENTRATE

An effective, organic, broad spectrum insecticide that can be used to control a broad range of insects. Perfect for use on veggie plants, fruit trees and ornamental plants.

GROVENTIVE GARDEN

A two-way systemic insecticide, safe for bees and most beneficial insects, providing control of sucking insects including harder to control species. Approved for use on roses, pot plants, hedging, flowers and ornamentals.

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