



WELCOME TO KINGS ONLINE PLANT DOCTOR

WHITEFLY

There are 2 main species present in New Zealand, Greenhouse Whitefly (*Trialeurodes vaporariorum*) and Citrus Whitefly (*Orchamoplatus citri*).

Whiteflies are small white sap sucking insects 1-2mm in length that resemble miniature moths with a wingspan of around 3mm. Both the nymphs and the adult insects are sapsuckers. Their feeding can harm the vigour of the plant, and help spread disease. As they feed they excrete a sugary substance (honeydew) and if left can allow [sooty mould](#) to grow on the leaves.

During warmer periods they can breed prolifically. The female whiteflies lay their eggs on the underside of a plants leaves. After 4-12 days the eggs hatch into crawling, sap-sucking nymphs.



PREVENTION

Nicotiana (an attractive flower) is believed to attract whitefly and can be grown as a sacrificial plant or to serve as an early warning of their presence.

Various beneficial predatory insects will prey on whitefly and can help control numbers. To help attract beneficial predator insects grow a wide array of flowering plants including: alyssum, borage, hyssop, lavender, will help attract them. For more ideas [click here](#)

NATURAL TREATMENT

Spray affected plants with [Bugtrol](#), a highly effective organic insecticide. Spray the plant thoroughly, drenching the tops and bottoms all the leaves, twice in one week. Alternate with [Bioneem](#) for best results. Whitefly can build up a resistance to sprays, therefore it is best to alternate with different sprays.

Spray at two weekly intervals throughout summer to keep infestation under control.

Where possible, spray in the evening to avoid affecting beneficial insects.

OTHER TREATMENT

Spray with [Mavrik](#). Repeat spraying twice in one week. Follow up spraying may be required in some circumstances.

If you have a bad infestation, try using the systemic [Groventive](#), which does not affect bees. Only use this on ornamentals/ non-edibles.

Where possible, spray in the evening to avoid affecting beneficial insects.

WHITEFLY 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.



Everything you need!

FOR MORE ADVICE
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