

Suppliers of Biological Control for Home Gardeners

RHS Advisory Service
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Sharing the best in Gardening

How and what to order

When contacting mail order firms, describe:

- the size of the glasshouse or area to be treated
- main types of plants grown
- the pests and the extent of the infestation

These factors will determine the quantity of predators, parasites or nematode product required.



The various biological controls are compatible with each other and may be introduced either singly or in combination as required by the pests present. Better control is sometimes

achieved by a number of introductions over a period of several weeks, rather than a single introduction, especially with parasites.

Biological controls can sometimes be ordered through garden centres but most are supplied by mail order: being living animals with limited lifespans, most cannot be stocked in shops; the exception is nematodes which are sometimes sold from refrigerated cabinets. The **supplier's instructions** regarding release and subsequent care of the predators or parasites **must be followed carefully**. The firms listed below can supply, subject to availability, the following biological controls.



Pests and the available biological control options

Pest(s)	Biological Control	Suppliers
Ants	Ant nest nematode (<i>Steinernema feltiae</i>)	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
Aphids (various species)	a) Aphid midge (<i>Aphidoletes aphidimyza</i>) b) Aphid parasites* (<i>Aphidius</i> , <i>Praon</i> or <i>Aphelinus</i>) c) Lacewing larvae (<i>Chrysoperla carnea</i>) d) Two-spot ladybird (<i>Adalia bipunctata</i>) e) Rove beetle (<i>Atheta coriaria</i>)	2, 3, 5 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 1, 3, 4, 5 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 5
Carrot fly	a) [Spring] <i>Steinernema feltiae</i> nematodes b) [Summer] <i>Steinernema carpocapsae</i> nematodes	3 3
Caterpillars	<i>Trichogramma</i> egg parasite	3, 5
Chafer grubs in lawns	Chafer grub nematode (<i>Heterorhabditis bacteriophora</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Citrus red spider mite (<i>Panonychus citri</i>)	Citrus spider mite predator (<i>Amblyseius</i> species)	3, 4, 5, 7
Diaspid scales (Glasshouse)	Ladybird <i>Chilocorus nigritus</i>	2
Fungus gnats/Sciarid flies	a) Fungus gnat mite (<i>Hypoaspis miles</i>) b) Fungus gnat nematode (<i>Steinernema feltiae</i>) c) Mighty Mite <i>Macrocheles robustulus</i> d) Rove beetle (<i>Atheta coriaria</i>)	2, 3, 4, 5, 6 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 3, 6 5
Glasshouse mealybugs (<i>Pseudococcus</i> and <i>Planococcus</i> spp.)	a) Mealybug ladybird (<i>Cryptolaemus montrouzieri</i>) b) Mealybug parasites* (<i>Leptomastix</i> & <i>Leptomastixidea</i> sp.) combined with <i>Cryptolaemus</i> c) Mealybug parasites* (<i>Leptomastix</i> & <i>Anagrus</i> sp.)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 3 2

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Pest(s)	Biological Control	Suppliers
Glasshouse red (two spotted) spider mite (<i>Tetranychus urticae</i>)	a) Glasshouse red spider mite predator (<i>Amblyseius</i> species)	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
	b) Glasshouse red spider mite predator (<i>Phytoseiulus persimilis</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
	c) Glasshouse red spider mite midge (<i>Feltiella acarisuga</i>)	5
	c) Rove beetle (<i>Atheta coriaria</i>)	5
Glasshouse whitefly (<i>Trialeurodes vaporariorum</i>)	a) Glasshouse whitefly parasite (<i>Encarsia formosa</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
	b) Delphastus ladybird	
Leatherjackets	Leatherjacket nematode (<i>Steinernema feltiae</i>)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Slugs	Slug nematode (<i>Phasmarhabditis hermaphrodita</i>)	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Scale – soft (<i>Coccus hesperidum</i>) and hemispherical (<i>Saissetia coffeae</i>)	a) Soft scale parasites* (<i>Metaphycus helvolus</i> , <i>Encyrtus</i> spp. and <i>Encarsia citrina</i>)	3
	b) Nematode (<i>Steinernema feltiae</i>)	4, 5, 7
Tarsonemid mite	Tarsonemid mite control (<i>Amblyseius cucumeris</i>)	2, 3
Thrips (various species)	a) Thrips predatory mite (<i>Amblyseius</i> species)	2, 4, 5
	b) Predatory mite <i>Hypoaspis</i> species	4, 5
	c) Mighty Mite <i>Macrocheles robustulus</i>	3, 5, 6
	d) Predatory bug (<i>Orius laevigatus</i>)	5
Vine weevil larvae (<i>Otiorhynchus sulcatus</i>)	a) Vine weevil nematode (<i>Steinernema kraussei</i>)	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
	b) Vine weevil nematode (<i>Heterorhabditis megidis</i>)	1, 3, 5
Vine weevil adults	Nematop Adult Vine Weevil trap (contains <i>Steinernema carpocapsae</i>)	4, 6, 7
Various vegetable pests (Including caterpillars)	Mixed nematodes 'Fruit and Vegetable Protection'	4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Wireworm - nematodes	Nematode (<i>Heterorhabditis bacteriophora</i>)	4



* It is advisable to enquire about availability of these biological controls before placing an order and it may be worthwhile to send the supplier samples of the pest on its host plants in a dry polythene bag and crush-proof container to ensure that they are species that can be dealt with by the biological control.

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Suppliers/Distributors

Company Name	Address	Contact	Website
1. Agralan Ltd	The Old Brickyard, Ashton Keynes, Swindon, Wiltshire SN6 6QR	T: 01285 860015 E: sales@agralan.co.uk	www.agralan.co.uk
2. Defenders (Marketed by Wyebugs)	WyeBugs, Occupation Road, Wye, Ashford, Kent TN25 5EN	T: 01233 813130 E: help@defenders.co.uk	www.defenders.co.uk
3. Dragonfli Ltd	Hartest Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP29 4DN	T: 01284 830400 E: sales@dragonfli.co.uk	www.dragonfli.co.uk
4. Green Gardener	Chandlers End, Mill Road, Stokesby, Great Yarmouth NR29 3EY	T: 01493 750061 E: jon@greengardener.co.uk	www.greengardener.co.uk
5. Ladybird Plantcare	The Glasshouses, Fletching Common, Newick, Lewes, East Sussex BN8 4JJ	T: 01825 724621 E: plantcare@ladybirdplantcare.co.uk	www.ladybirdplantcare.co.uk
6. Organic Gardening Catalogue	Riverdene Business Park, Molesey Road, Hersham, Surrey KT12 4RG	T: 01932 253666 E: Via website	www.organiccatalogue.com
7. Pippa Greenwood	99 Wey Hill, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 1HT	E: info@pippagreenwood.com	www.pippagreenwood.com
8. Simply seed	Moor Lane, Gotham, Nottingham NG11 0LH	T: 0115 7270606 E: help@simplyseed.co.uk	www.simplyseed.co.uk

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