

Lady Beetles

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Overview

- In the order Coleoptera
- Beneficial predators
- Usually red/orange with black spots

Diet

- Aphids
- Mites
- Insect eggs

Appearance

- Round
- Black, red, orange, yellow
- Hardened elytra

Benefits

- Promotes crop growth
- Reduced need for pesticide
- Pollinators

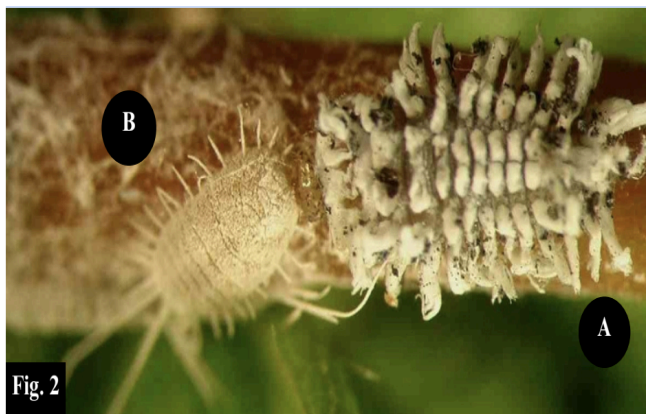
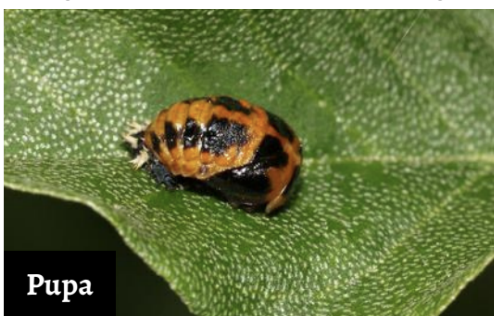


Fig. 2A: *Cryptolaemus* larvae, Fig. 2B: Mealybug Photo Credits: Sonya Broughton, Department of Agriculture & Food Western Australia, Bugwood.org



Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org



Bruce Watt, University of Maine, Bugwood.org



Fig. 1: Adult *Cryptolaemus*

Common Name: Mealybug Destroyer

Scientific Name: *Cryptolaemus montrouzieri*

Require temperatures of 70F as they feed on mealybugs (preferred), aphids or scale for 50 d.



Melissa Schreiner, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Asian Lady Beetle

Scientific Name: *Harmonia axyridis*

- 6 generations per year
- Outcompete native beetles
- One individual can
- consume 5,000 aphids or
- other pests in its adult life
- span of about 1 year.



Tom Murray, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Twice Stabbed

Scientific Name: *Chilocorus stigma*

- Strong mouthparts that can chew through
- exoskeletons of other insects
- Eat the pests that infect plants with disease

- Protection against predators from tasting bad



Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Spotted Lady Beetle

Scientific Name: *Coleomegilla maculata*

- Six spots and sometimes pink
- eat pollen as well
- eat pea, melon, and potato aphids

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