



Rhopalosiphum padi aphid

BANKERPLANTS

Bankerplants or "Open breeding" is a system that optimises the control of aphids in ornamentals and vegetables in greenhouses (dicotyledonous species). The system has now been used for many years in Denmark, and very good results been found e.g. reduced use of pesticides and reduced releases of parasitoids and finally more happy growers. Bankerplants will, if treated correct in the greenhouse, contain a "bank" of not parasitized and parasitized aphids. The latter are continuously released in the greenhouse. The aphid species used on the bankerplants are not able to attack the dicotyledonous plants bred in the greenhouse, as they only occur on monocotyledons. To get the system to function, it is necessary to introduce *Aphidius colemani* and /or *Aphidius ervi* and/or *Aphidoletes aphidimyza* and/or *Episyrphus spp.* (see how to use)

Two types of bankerplants

1. Bankerplants "*Aphidius colemani/Aphidoletes aphidimyza*-system" cornplants with the aphid *Rhopalosiphum padi*
2. Bankerplants "*Aphidius ervi/Aphidoletes aphidimyza*-system" cornplants with the aphid *Sitobion avena*.

Each system contains minimum 500 aphids.

How to use bankerplants?

1. Bankerplants "*Aphidius colemani/Aphidoletes*-system is used to control the Green Peach Aphid and The Cottonaphid.
Use minimum 2 Bankerplants per 1.000 m². More bankerplants are added every 2.-3 weeks or as soon as plants not work any more. Introduce 0,15 *Aphidius colemani*/m² in the greenhouse. Repeat this introduction the following 2-3 weeks. If the temperature exceed 25 degrees Celsius in average or hyperparasitoids occur, use *Aphidoletes* or *Episyrphus*.
2. Bankerplants "*Aphidius ervi/Aphidoletes*"-system is used to control the Potato Aphids and Rose Aphids.
Use minimum 2 bankerplants per 1.000 m². More bankerplants are added every 2.-3 weeks or as soon as plants not work any more. Introduce 0,15 *Aphidius ervi*/m². Repeat this introduction the following 2-3 weeks. If the temperature exceed 25 degrees Celsius in average or hyperparasitoids occur, use *Aphidoletes* or *Episyrphus*.

After receiving the bankerplants, the lid is removed and the plant is placed on the growthmedia or on the soil (the inner plast box do not need to be removed.). Remember to water regularly or place a strain of the automatically watering system in the bankerplant. Under normal conditions the bankerplants will work after 1-2 weeks.