



Bioletes

The Aphid midge

(*Aphidoletes aphidimyza*)

Biology

Adult midges are mainly active in the evening and in the night, and will look for honeydew in colonies of aphids. In the colonies the orange eggs are laid close to the aphids. The gallmidge larvae hatches from the eggs in 2 days and will start consuming aphids by paralyzing and thereafter sucking them out. Developed larvae are around 4 mm. in length, will crawl or fall to the ground when ready to pupate. A cocoon is formed. In normal conditions (20-25 degrees Celsius), the new generation of midges hatches within 2 weeks.

Aphidoletes can control nearly all species of aphids in all kind of cultures.

How to use?

Aphidoletes must be released as soon aphids are observed. The used rate depends on the infection and use of parasitoids, but often the recommendation is around 1-2/m² in minimum 3-4 weeks. Control will be achieved if one Aphidoletes larvae (or egg) are found among maximum 5 aphids (ratio 1:5) within 2 weeks.

Optimal conditions are 20-30 degrees Celsius and daylength of minimum 16 timer hours.

Aphidoletes can be used preventive as well at rates of 1/2-1/m² weekly.

The Product

Aphidoletes is delivered as pupae in granulate. The granulate is sprinkled on the humid soil or growth media.

It is recommended to place minimum one heap of pupae per 50 m². Place a heap under severe attacked plants.

1-2 week after release the orange larvae are seen among the aphids

1000 pupae (500 ml.) in vermiculite. (professional)

100 pupae in vermiculite. (retail)

Can be stored at 8-10 degrees Celsius a few days.