



Adult *Hypoaspis miles* female attacking a sciarid larvae.

***Hypoaspis*-mites  
(*Hypoaspis miles* and  
*Hypoaspis aculeifer*)  
against sciarids, thrips,  
springtails etc.**

**Biology/appearance**

The adult mites of the species *Hypoaspis miles* and *H. aculeifer* (1 mm) are yellow-brownish and the nymphs are transparent-light brown. Adults and nymphs of both species are polyphagous, i. e. feeding on a range of different soil-dwelling prey species and is used for biocontrol of sciarids (especially *H. miles*), shore flies (*H. aculeifer*) and springtails (both) etc.

The *Hypoaspis*-mites stay most of the time within or on the soil searching the upper 20 cm of the soil for prey. *H. miles* prefer 0-10 cm. Down in soil, whereas *H. aculeifer* go deeper.

Both *Hypoaspis*-species prefer humid conditions e.g. humid plant compost and *H. aculeifer* is able to tolerate up to 7 weeks without food. *H. miles* prefer 15-30 °C, whereas *H. aculeifer* prefer 18-23 °C.

**How to use?**

The *Hypoaspis*-mites can be used simultaneously with nematodes and the Bt-products Vectobac and Bactimos.

The mites prefer soil as growth media, but can also be used in Coconut-products and inactive growth media. The *Hypoaspis*-mites are dispersed on top of the growth media before or after planting or later on in the growth period. Mixing the *Hypoaspis* into the soil can not be recommended.

In addition, *Hypoaspis* can be used to control the level of sciarids on the floor (below the tables). For this treatment use a lower dose of mites of 50 *Hypoaspis*/m<sup>2</sup> once a year. For preventive control release 100 *Hypoaspis*/m<sup>2</sup> 1-2 times. In growth buckets release 1 tablespoon/bucket (100 mites). For curative control release once at least 250-500 mites/m<sup>2</sup>.

**The product**

Professional: The *Hypoaspis*-mites are delivered in a mixture of soil and vermiculite with 10.000 , 25.000 or 125.000 per bottle. It is advantageous to remove the mesh from the lid and disperse the mites through the hole.

Retail: 5.000 mites of a mixture of soil and vermiculite.

Avoid direct sunlight. Release immediately after delivery. Can be stored for a few days at 15-20 °C, but not longer, since the mites then will start attacking each other in the restricted space. *Hypoaspis miles* do not tolerate storage in the refrigerator, whereas *H. aculeifer* easily tolerates 10 °C.