

Description

Encarsia formosa is a parasitoid wasp for whiteflies. It parasitizes whiteflies (*Trialeurodes vaporariorum* and *Bemisia* spp.). The adult is 0.6 mm long. Its head and thorax are black. Its antennae and abdomen are yellow. To reproduce, this tiny wasp lays its eggs in immature whiteflies (third and fourth larvae stage). The *Encarsia* larva feeds on the immature whitefly. After 10 to 14 days, the parasitized whitefly turns black. A new parasitoid wasp will emerge after 2 weeks.

Life cycle

- The optimum conditions are a temperature of more than 20 °C and a relative humidity of 50-70% .
- The life cycle lasts approximately 28 days at 21 °C.
- Eggs are laid in 2-week-old whiteflies (third or fourth larvae stage).
- Females lay an average of 10 eggs per day for a total of 200 to 350 eggs.
- The adult can live from a few days to a month depending on the temperature.
- Parasitized whitefly pupae darkens after 10 to 14 days. The new adult emerges after two weeks.



Introduction rate

Introduction	Quantity	Surface	Frequency	Duration
Preventive	1	per m ²	14-28 days	5 introductions in total
Curative	5	per m ²	7-14 days	until 80% whiteflies are parasitized
Hot spot	10	per m ²	7 days	until 80% whiteflies are parasitized
Maintenance	1	per m ²	7 days	as needed

Application

Whiteflies are an important pest in greenhouse cultivation of tomatoes, cucumbers and many ornamental species such as the poinsettia, the gerbera and the rose.

Encarsia formosa is more effective against greenhouse whiteflies (*Trialeurodes vaporariorum*), but also allows some control over whiteflies like *Bemisia*. The optimum conditions of *Encarsia formosa* are a temperature above 20 ° C, a high brightness (7300 lux) and a humidity level of 50 to 70%. When temperatures drop below 18 ° C, adults become less active and their effectiveness decreases.

Format

- AB009- *Encarsia formosa* - 1000 pupae (10 cards)



How to use

1



Use insects upon receipt.

Remove the packaging and separate the cards. 1 card covers 20 to 100 m² according to the culture.



2

Place each card in the lower foliage of the plant, preferably in the shade. Adults will begin to emerge after 1 to 2 weeks.

3



Repeat as needed or until 80% of the juvenile whiteflies are parasitized (black color).

Use upon receipt • Do not freeze • Do not refrigerate