



Micromus variegatus

Target pests

- Aphids
- Spidermites
- Thrips
- Whiteflies

Target crops

- Celery
- Cruciferous vegetables
- Cucumbers
- Grapes
- Lettuce
- Orchards
- Ornamentals
- Peppers
- Potatoes
- Raspberries
- Strawberries
- Tomatoes
- Trees Bushes and shrubs (rose bushes, apple trees, etc.)

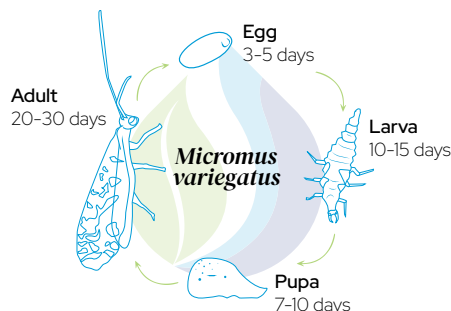
Micromus variegatus (Neuroptera: Hemerobiidae) commonly known as the brown lacewing, is a predatory species native to North America and well adapted to temperate climates. It is widely used in integrated pest management programs for aphid control in greenhouse and field crops.

Adults are delicate, light to dark brown insects measuring about 7–9 mm in length, with transparent, finely veined wings. Unlike the green lacewing (*Chrysoperla carnea*), *Micromus variegatus* tolerates cooler temperatures and lower light conditions, making it highly effective in early- or late-season crops.

Larvae, often called “aphid lions,” are the predatory stage. They are elongated, grey-brown, and equipped with strong curved mandibles used to pierce and suck out their prey. Both larvae and adults are voracious predators of aphids and other soft-bodied insects.

Life cycle

- **Life cycle:** typically lasts 25–35 days, depending on conditions.
- **Optimal Conditions:** up to 20–25°C and relative humidity of 60–80%.
- **Diapause:** can enter reproductive diapause in response to short-day photoperiods or temperatures below 10–12 °C. In greenhouse environments with sufficient light and warmth, it remains active year-round.
- **Reproduction:** Females lay eggs singly on leaves near aphid colonies.



Introduction rate

Eggs

Introduction	Quantity	Frequency	Duration
Preventive	20–50 / m ²	1–2 weeks	Until control
Curative	50–200 / 100m ² or more in cases of heavy infestation	1–2 weeks	Until control

Adults

Introduction	Quantity	Frequency	Duration
Preventive	5–10 / m ²	2 weeks	Until control
Curative	20–50 / 100m ²	2 weeks	Until control

Application

Eggs: Carefully remove the strings from the container and separate them thoroughly. Place strings on the foliage near aphids.

Loose eggs can be applied by gently sprinkling across foliage and/or on top of plants.

Adults: Find an area low in the canopy of the crop and off the ground, and remove the lid from the container to allow the adults to emerge on their own.

NOTE: To improve dispersion and efficacy reduce fans speeds at night, when adults are most active.

Storage

 Use upon receipt and do not store. Mortality of less than 10% is normal.

 Do not refrigerate or freeze.