



Hortus Technical Services

Hortus Technical Services is an independent agronomy company dedicated to providing efficient and cost-effective integrated pest management strategies to growers.

Due to overuse or inappropriate use of agricultural chemical the incidences of chemical resistance among pests and diseases are steadily increasing and are now common place . As the few remaining effective chemicals are used more frequently, so the risks of resistance developing to these remaining chemicals increases.

As a result, more growers are turning to alternative control options. The agronomists at Hortus are able to provide growers with a range of biological pest management options to better control pests using integrated pest management.

Hortus has a number of biological products available to growers for a wide array of pests, including:

- **Macadamia Nutborer**
- **Heliothis**
- **Silverleaf Whitefly**
- **Thrips**
- **Two-Spotted Mite**
- **Red Scale**
- **Aphids**
- **Queensland Fruit Fly**





PERSIMILIS

(Phytoseiulus persimilis)

Control of Two Spotted Mite

Persmilis are a species of predatory mite that feed on two spotted mites. They are a small, pear shaped and fast moving. The adult stage of Persmilis are orange; the juveniles are clear. The adults are easy to spot on the underside of leaves.



Adult Persimilis

BENEFITS

- ❖ Adult Persmilis mites are capable of eating all stages of the two spotted mites.
- ❖ At 25 °C, Persmilis mites can multiply twice as fast as the two spotted mites
- ❖ Adult Persmilis are capable of destroying 20 young two spotted mites or 7 adults – even though they're only slightly larger than their prey!

DELIVERY

Montdorensis are supplied to growers in bottles that contain 10 000 mites.

Keeping the mites at cool temperatures (approximately 10 °C) will prevent them aging in transit and before paddock/greenhouse release.

APPLICATION

Actual release rates and timing are determined through monitoring. There are approximately 10 000 mites (adults, juveniles and eggs).

Release Rates:

- ❖ Field Crops – 5-10 bottles per hectare
- ❖ Strawberries – 1 bottle per 3-5 000 plants
- ❖ Ornamentals – 1 bottle per 2-500m²

Crops should be checked regularly after releases to assess the presence of both Persmilis and two spotted mites. Persmilis numbers may seem low soon after release.

Caution must be taken with insecticide and some fungicide applications prior to, and after Montdorensis releases.



Adult Persimilis feeding on two spotted mites

INTERESTED?

Contact your local Hortus Technical Services for information concerning costs and distribution.

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