



**Greenhouse TPM/IPM Weekly Report**  
**University of Maryland Cooperative Extension**  
**Central Maryland Research and Education Center**

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**June 14, 2007**

**Summer Cut Flower Growers Program**  
**July 24, 2007 in Salisbury, MD**  
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**Making Use of Roll-up Side Greenhouses**

Here are a few pictures showing a roll-up side greenhouse being used for mid-summer sales. This grower finished moving his bedding plants this spring, and has now moved into cut flower production. He is growing cut flowers in media sacks and bitter melons in containers. Water is supplied through a drip system. The managers say that the bitter melons are a big selling item for their Asian customers.



**Banded Winged Whitefly**

John Speaker is seeing banded winged whitefly in Montgomery County this week. We usually don't see banded winged whitefly on greenhouse crops until late September to mid-October. They seem to prefer soybeans and weeds. In the fall, as the weeds and soybeans dry down, the banded winged whitefly usually migrates into greenhouses and shows up on poinsettia and cabbage and kale crops. Fortunately the banded winged whitefly is easy to control.

**Controls include:** Marathon, Safari, Celero, Flagship, Tristar, Judo, Astro, Talstar, Sanmite, Endeavor, and Azatin

## Mite and Thrips Populations Are Extremely High this June

Growers are telling us that two-spotted spider mites and thrips are at extreme populations levels. The hot, dry weather is perfect for both of these pests. We are seeing mites on hibiscus and roses this week.

**Mite control:** You have several choices to rotate between for mite control including: Pylon, Judo, Avid, Floramite, Akari, horticultural oil, neem oil, Kelthane, Hexygon (IMR), and Sanmite.

**Thrips control:** You are somewhat limited on what you can rotate between for effective thrips control. Conserve has been the standard for the past 8 years. Mesuro 75 WP is a carbamate and is effective, but it has a 24 hour REI. The insect growth regulator Pedestal can be used to control early instar thrips, but it does not work on adults and you are limited to the number of applications allowed on a crop. Synthetic pyrethroids are an option, but control may not always be the best. We have a couple of materials that are waiting on EPA approval that will hopefully give us a few more choices in 2008.



## Scouting Reports

### Asclepias

We are seeing milkweed bugs and milkweed beetles on asclepias this week. The milkweed bug rarely reaches high enough levels to warrant spraying. The milkweed beetle is often found feeding on the flowers and can be a nuisance when marketing the cut stems. Neem products can provide a level of control or try pyrethrums applied just before harvest to knock the beetles off the flowers.



**Milkweed Bugs**



**Assassin bugs are predators that were also seen on the asclepias**



**Milkweed Beetle**

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## **Aphids**

We are seeing aphids on sedum, lisianthus, and monarda this week. Syrphid flies, lady beetles, and minute pirate bugs (*Orius* spp.) were observed near the aphid colonies. Foxglove aphids were also seen on *Digitalis*.



**A syrphid fly adult feeds on pollen.  
It is the larva that feeds on aphids.**



**Adult Lady Beetle**



**Foxglove Aphid**



**Lady Beetle Larva**



**The minute pirate bug  
also feeds on aphids**