

Rosemania

Rosemania Recommends

How to Control Insects And Spider Mites By: Robbie Tucker



This species not only attacks the blooms but also can attack the foliage of the plant. Both types can be difficult to control.

For years the preferred method was to mist the blooms with *Orthene* daily. The reason you only mist the blooms is to keep from killing all the beneficial insects in your garden from heavy insecticide use. With the introduction of *Conserve SC* a few years ago, it is now much easier to control thrips and various bud worms and caterpillars. *Conserve* is a new kind of insecticide derived from a bacteria. It will not kill beneficial insects like lady bugs and praying mantis but will do a great job of controlling thrips. I like to start adding *Conserve SC* to my regular spray mix in the spring as soon as I see buds forming. I continue to use the *Conserve* until the end of July and then I give it a break until mid September.

This preventative program has served me well the past three years. If you have an infestation of thrips, you may want to combine *Conserve* with *Merit* for a quick knockdown. There is also a very good insecticide called *Overture*, however, it is not labeled for residential use.

In the last edition, Logan wrote about successful spray programs. Hopefully you have continued to spray your preventative fungicides on a regular schedule and your roses are free of disease. If you find yourself with blackspot, be sure to use *Mancozeb* or *Pentathlon* to eliminate it and then go back to alternating *Banner Maxx* and *Heritage* every two weeks. This edition I'm going to focus on insects and spider mites and give you an update on a couple of new products.

If you find your roses have aphids, then *Orthene*, *Talstar* or *Merit* will work well. Of the three, I prefer *Merit* or *Talstar* as I find they control a larger number of pests than *Orthene*, including Japanese Beetles. *Talstar* has the added benefit of also killing cucumber beetles.

Thrips continue to be a terrible problem for some rose growers. These are tiny insects that love to get inside your rose blooms and suck all the juice out of the petals. They start on the outside petals causing them to lose their substance and making it impossible for the bloom to open. You will notice the edges of light colored roses turning brown. Many think the thrip prefers the lighter colored roses but I believe the damage is simply easier to recognize on lighter colors than say reds. You can positively identify the culprit by opening up an affected bloom. You will see that it looks like many tiny hopping wood splinters running around the inside of the blooms. Many of you in Florida and southern states are also dealing with the dreaded Chilean thrip.



Conserve SC

\$156.00

Quart

Spider Mites

So what is a spider mite? Spider mites are not insects but are more closely related to ticks and spiders. For this reason, **insecticides will not kill them**. The spider mite's name is derived from their ability to produce silk (webbing) that is noticeable in severe cases. They are very tiny and hard to see unless you have excellent vision or a magnifying glass. This is why infestations often go unnoticed until plants exhibit significant damage. They over-winter as adult

Partial Listing of Insecticides, Miticides & Fungicides.

<i>Eagle 20EW (pint)</i>	\$69.99
<i>Banner Maxx (pint)</i>	\$69.99
<i>Honor Guard (pint; generic B. Maxx)</i>	\$57.99
<i>Compass (1 lb)</i>	\$469.00
<i>Heritage (4oz)</i>	\$149.99
<i>Mancozeb (pint)</i>	\$24.99
<i>Pentathlon DF (6 lb)</i>	\$47.99
<i>Pentathlon LF (2.5 Gallons)</i>	\$136.99
<i>Daconil Ultrex (5 lb)</i>	\$89.95
<i>Clearys 3336F (quart)</i>	\$72.99
<i>Stature SC (for Downey Mildew)</i>	\$199.99
<i>Conserve SC (Great for thrips!)</i>	\$156.00
<i>Merit (2 oz) (for aphids and J. Beetles)</i>	\$59.99
<i>Orthene 97 WP (.773 lb)</i>	\$31.99
<i>Overture</i>	\$142.00
<i>Talstar (quart)</i>	\$79.99
<i>Kontos (250 ml)</i>	\$199.95
<i>Avid (8oz)</i>	\$109.00
<i>Floramite SC (quart)</i>	\$295.00
<i>Forbid (8oz)</i>	\$289.99
<i>Hexygon (6oz)</i>	\$205.00
<i>Shuttle (pint)</i>	\$169.99

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females in the soil and they move to your roses bushes in the summer and climb to the lower leaves and work their way up the plant. The very first sign on tender green leaves is a lighter green coloring in the middle part of the leaf. The mites almost always prefer the underside of the leaves and this is where you will most likely find them. On more mature leaves you will see the dark green color turn a purplish yellow. You will also notice the underside to be brown and there will be little white deposits on the underside that almost look like salt crystals. There are three life stages of mites: eggs, larvae, and adults. Larvae have only six legs while the adults have eight. Mites are very resilient creatures and can build up resistance to miticides easily, especially if they are overused. If you are a new grower or if your garden is new, chances are your mites are not resistant to *Avid*. For most gardens, *Avid* will be the product of choice simply because it is the most economical for

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a small garden. *Avid* will do an excellent job of controlling adult mites but it will not kill the eggs. Since the complete egg cycle can be as fast as 5 days, it is important to spray the underside of the leaves well with *Avid* and then repeat the process in 5 days. Usage is only 1/4 (one fourth) of one teaspoon per gallon so an 8oz bottle will make almost 200 gallons of spray material. After the two applications, do not spray again until you have living mites in your garden. No miticide should be used preventatively. As stated above, mites can quickly build up resistance so use common sense and only spray when you have a mite problem.

For several years my favorite miticide has been *Floramite*. This great product contains both a miticide and an ovicide. This means it kills all stages of mites including eggs. It also has a long residual and continues to kill all stages of mites for up to three weeks! Usage is only 1/2 (one half) of one teaspoon per gallon so a quart is very economical for larger gardens. Be sure to spray



**Shuttle
Miticide
\$169.99
Pint**

the underside of the leaves. This is also an excellent choice for gardens where *Avid* is no longer effective or where you want a second miticide for rotation. (Which we strongly recommend.)

Another proven performer is *Forbid*. Like *Floramite*, *Forbid* kills all stages of mites and has a long residual. What makes it unique? It features translaminar activity. This means you can spray the top of the leaves and *Forbid* will still kill mites on the underside! This is a huge benefit for those who have trouble getting to the underside of leaves or hard to reach places. However, I still recommend spraying the underside if it can be easily reached as the product will start working immediately versus waiting for it to move through the plant tissue. Usage is only 1/8 to 1/4 teaspoons per gallon of spray solution.

Another great option is *Shuttle* (and available in a pint!) This miticide offers exceptional broad-spectrum control of mites. It offers rapid knockdown as well as long-lasting residual activity for three weeks or more so no need to repeat. It kills all stages of mites... eggs, nymphs and adults. It is also labeled and approved for garden landscapes and for greenhouse applications. I have used this product in my greenhouses with great effect. If you are looking for a great miticide, or if you have been using *Floramite* or *Forbid* and want a new product in your rotation, I highly recommend *Shuttle*.

Please remember to wear proper safety equipment when spraying any pesticide. This includes a pesticide respirator, protective gloves (nitril recommended), goggles, and long sleeve shirt and long pants (*Tyvek* coveralls are better and no bringing the pesticide into your washing machine.)

New Products at Rosemina!

Actinovate® SP is a patented beneficial bacterium in a 100% water soluble powder. This powerful new product effectively suppresses/controls a wide range of soil borne diseases including Pythium, Phytophthora, Fusarium, Rhizoctonia, Verticillium and other root decay fungi. *Actinovate® SP* is also labeled as a spray application for foliar diseases (when applied as a spray) such as Powdery and Downey Mildew.

The benefits of *Actinovate® SP* don't stop there! Because of the special properties of the *Actinovate®* microbe, plants treated with *Actinovate® SP* will be vigorous, have increased vitality and have much better root growth. *Actinovate® SP* contains the microorganism *Streptomyces lydicus* strain WYEC 108. When introduced into the soil this microbe colonizes and grows around the root system of plants. This combination of the colonization and the protective secretions forms a defensive barrier around the root system of the plant which in turn suppresses and controls soil pathogens. The by-products of the *Actinovate®* microorganism also aid plants in complexing minerals and micronutrients found in the soil, allowing easier uptake and, thus, creating a stronger,

Actinovate
18 oz. - \$109 2 oz. - \$27.00
Actino-Iron
3 lb. \$28.00

more robust plant. Better news is the product *Action-Iron!* *Actino-Iron* is a unique granular soil additive that combines the *Actinovate* organic fungicide with organic iron and humates. Simply add 1/4 of a cup to a bare root rose at planting or broadcast to existing beds and water in. A three pound package treats 750 square feet of bed.

Thanks for your business!

Mills Products

<i>Magic Mix (9 lb.)</i>	\$17.99
<i>Magic Mix (20 lb.)</i>	\$25.99
<i>Magic Mix (40lb pail)</i>	\$58.99
<i>EasyFeed (3 lb.)</i>	\$19.99
<i>EasyFeed (9 lb.)</i>	\$44.99
<i>Liquid EasyFeed (pint)</i>	\$9.99
<i>Liq. EasyFeed (1/2 gallon)</i>	\$23.99
<i>Liq. EasyFeed (1 gallon)</i>	\$39.99
<i>Liq. EasyFeed (5 gallon)</i>	\$174.99
<i>Bloomkote (15 lbs.)</i>	\$39.99
<i>Bloomkote (40 lbs.)</i>	\$89.00

