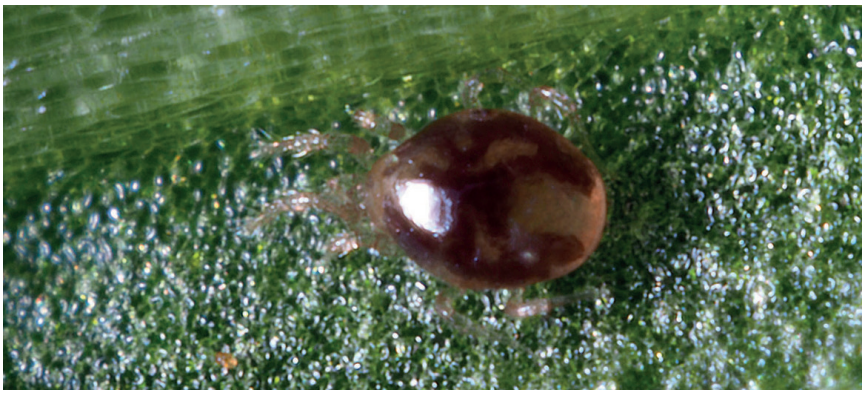
SUSTAINABLE CROP MANAGEMENT

TECHNICAL DATA SHEET



DEGENERANS-SYSTEM

Amblyseius degenerans

Amblyseius degenerans is a predatory mite of thrips that can also feed and complement the control of spider mites and whiteflies. Its brown dark color makes it very con- spicuous on plants, facilitating their monitoring. It prefers to feed on thrips larvae but can also sustain on pollen. Degenerans is easily found on flowers, where flower thrips are located, but is also very active on leaves, where they lay eggs. The food supplement Nutrimite™ can boost its reproduction 10-20 times. Thanks to Nutrimite™ it is no longer necessary to wait until a crop has flowers to establish a high Degenerans population. Amblyseius degenerans can stand temperatures between 52-95°F (11-35°C) and its eggs can tolerate low relative humidity (min. 50%). Furthermore, it does not diapause, so it can reproduce, feed, and persist year round.

Product Specifications

Commercial name	Specifications
Degenerans-System - 500	• 100 ml bottle: 500 mites • Carrier: vermiculite

Storage

Use immediately upon receipt. If not possible, product can be briefly stored horizontally at 50-59°F (10-15°C).

Rates

Mode	Dosage	Area	Repeat
Preventative	0.2-1/m²	Full field. Make at least 100 release points/ha of 20 ind each.	2 applications 1-2 weeks apart
Curative	1-20/m²	Hot spots, high prey density areas	As needed

Features

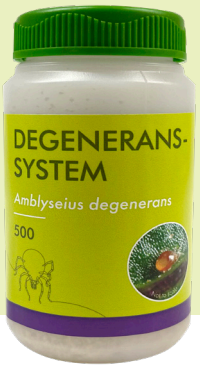
- Year round establishment (no diapause/heat and low RH tolerance)
- Good development in winter
- Fast population build-up
- High pollen consumption
- Very mobile, nice distribution on leaves and flowers
- Effective control of thrips in the flower
- Responds to food supplementation

Targets

- Thrips
- Spider mites

Crops

- Vegetables / Herbs
- Ornamentals



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DEGENERANS-SYSTEM

Application

If pollen is not yet present, Degenerans can be fed with the food supplement Nutrimite™. It is important to introduce this mite early in the crop season to allow for population build-up. During winter in vegetable crops, given that it has no diapause, the population of Degenerans will continue to multiply inside the greenhouse, spreading all over the crop. After a few months numerous Amblyseius degenerans can be found in every flower and many more will be walking on the leaves. The competitive advantage of this predatory mite is that it has higher mobility, resulting in better thrips control in the flower. Moreover, thanks to its ability to tolerate low relative humidity and its reproductive capacity at high temperatures, Amblyseius degenerans continues to control thrips throughout the summer. Besides sweet peppers, ornamentals, and herbs, the predatory mite Amblyseius degenerans also has interesting applications in eggplants.

Degenerans works well to control thrips in combination with Amblyseius cucumeris, A. swirskii and Orius insidiosus. For spider mite control, it can complement the actions of Phytoseiulus persimillis, californicus and feltiella.

Life cycle and appearance

Thanks to its dark color, it is very conspicuous in the crop, so it is easy to record it presence. It is very mobile, and can be easily found in flowers and on leaves. It takes about 5-7 days to complete a cycle, depending on temperature. Degenerans can reproduce and sustain at a very broad range of temperatures 52-95°F (11-35°C). Eggs are deposited on the underside of the leaves, close to the main vein. In the short larval stage, the mite hardly moves and does not eat. During the two subsequent nymphal stages and adulthood, the mite continuously moves to look for prey. It can easily build up a population on pollen only. The predatory mite prefers thrips larvae and can attack 2nd nymphal stages better than other predatory mite).

The eggs of Amblyseius degenerans endure low humidities. Therefore a population can easily develop in greenhouses in cold winter or hot summer weather. Moreover, this mite does not diapause, and can therefore be introduced in wintertime without any problems. Eggs of Amblyseius cucumeris, swirskii and degenerans are not visibly discernible.