

SCOUTING FOR BENEFICIALS IN OILSEEDS

Scouting your oilseeds? Look for these beneficial insects. They can help with control of yield-robbing insect pests and are an important part of integrated pest management.



GREEN LACEWINGS

- Adults are green, with wing veins that look like netting. Some species have gold eyes.
- Feed on aphids, thrips, Lygus nymphs, small caterpillars, as well as insect eggs. Will also eat diamondback moth eggs, larvae, and cocoons.



ROVE BEETLES

- Adults are slender with short wings; 3-6 segments of the abdomen may not be covered by the wings. They often run fast, sometimes with the tip of their abdomen bent upward.
- Adults prey on root maggot eggs and larvae; larvae parasitize root maggot pupae.



LADY BEETLES

- Adult lady beetles (commonly called 'ladybugs') are well recognized. Larvae are alligator-like in general shape and black with white, yellow, red or orange markings.
- Feed on soft-bodied insects, including aphids, thrips, and insect eggs.

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GROUND BEETLES

- Head at eyes narrower than section behind head. Elytra (front wings) may have striations or pits. Run rapidly when disturbed.
- Eat cutworms and diamondback moth larvae; grasshopper eggs; and root maggot eggs, larvae, and pupae. Some species feed on larvae of sunflower beetles. Some species of ground beetles will also feed on weed seeds.



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Banchus flavescens

PARASITIC WASPS

Several species of parasitic wasps are important in managing insect pests in oilseeds, including:

DIADAGMA INSULARE - parasitize diamondback moth

MICROPLITIS PLUTELLAE - parasitize diamondback moth

BANCHUS FLAVESCENS - parasitize bertha armyworm



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BEEES

- Adults of many species of honey bees and wild bees pollinate canola, sunflowers and other oilseed crops.
- Although canola and sunflowers can still produce good yields without pollinators, yield can be improved by pollinators. In addition, pollinators can contribute to more uniform pod and seed set in canola and sunflowers.
- Because of these benefits, it is important not to be applying broad spectrum insecticides to flowering oilseed crops unless absolutely necessary.



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