SCOUTING FOR BENEFICIALS IN PULSES

Scouting your pulses? 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.
- Larvae are alligator-like in general shape, cream coloured with brown markings and sickle-shaped mandibles, and long bristles coming out from the sides.
- Eat aphids, thrips, mites and leafhopper eggs.

HOVER FLIES
- Adults often hover over flowers. Some species resemble bees or wasps. Abdomen usually has black and yellow stripes.
- Larvae are legless and ‘slug-like,’ often green or brown and tapered towards the head. They eat aphids and small caterpillars.

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 aphids, thrips, mites and other small insects; may also feed on the eggs of moths and beetles.
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 other caterpillars, and grasshopper eggs. Some species of ground beetles will also feed on weed seeds.

MINUTE PIRATE BUGS
• Adults are oval, black with white markings; 3-5mm. Nymphs are orange to brown.
• Eat insect eggs, small caterpillars, thrips, mites, and aphids. Some species are predators of soybean aphids.