



Russet Mite

Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org

Main problem Species:

Russet Mite (*Aculops lycopersici*)

Lifecycle:

Egg, larva, nymph1, nymph2, adult

Egg to egg:

8.7 days @20°C, 5.5 days @25°C

Scouting tips:

You will require a magnification of at least 50x to view these clearly, normally the damage they cause alerts you to their presence. Look for bronzing on leaves or stems.

POTENTIAL CONTROL MEASURES:

- Keep the environment clean by having good hygiene measures and removing all weeds
- Remove any symptomatic plants at nursery stage
- Physical mode of action spray
- Agchem spray

What do I do?

Just a few:

Unfortunately russet mite are unlikely to be limited to 'just a few'. Once you see damage act quickly, identify and spot spray with a physical mode of action spray. Be aware that often this is not successful as these mites are easily spread on workers hands/clothes so you should probably move straight to the 'doing damage' stage.

Doing damage:

If damage is apparent at multiple locations move to an appropriate agchem solution. Check resources regarding aide effects and ensure IPM compatibility, in general Physical mode of action sprays are the most compatible with an IPM approach.

Ongoing Issue:

You must Identify and remove the source of infestation. No weeds, clean margins around the glasshouse, no moving staff between infested and non-infested rows spreading mites on clothing. Hot wash clothing daily. Regular IPM compatible spraying.



Russet Mite

What you'll observe:

As russet mite are so small, you're more likely to see the damage they cause

