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Before you start

A great IPM plan can be ruined with a sloppy, or incomplete application job. Therefore it is critical that you have a plan before applying. This starts with scouting. Where are your hot spots? Have you flagged them yet? Has anything changed since you ordered the predators? If this is a preventative application, are certain strains more prone to pest issues?

You don't want to be 50% done with your application, and 100% out of bugs!

Bulk mite application tips (1 liter tubes and 5 liter bags)

There are 3 primary methods:

Method	1) Broadcast mites over canopy	2) Adding mites to hanging cup	3) Create small mound at base of plant
Best used for	veg plants w/ dense canopy	flowering plants past day 7	short plants
	closely spaced plants	heavily pruned plants	
Rec'd tools	teaspoon/scoop	2 oz dixie cups/clips	none
	Electric spreader/blower	Bioline baskets	



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Bulk Mite Broadcast Application

The mites are 'broadcast' along with the carrier material directly onto the plants

- Broadcasting is the most effective means of applying most of the predatory mite species.
- This method can be accomplished with a small scoop or spoon, by using the shaker cap of the liter size tubes, or with a mechanically with a electric spreader or modified leaf-blower.
- Broadcasting works best when the canopy is dense. If the canopy is sparse you may lose some product onto the ground.



•The practice of 'leaf dipping' can be used when applying Persimilis. This practice will not work for other predatory mites species.

•If the plants are in flower then broadcasting should be avoided, or done with extreme care so as not to contaminate the flowers with vermiculite.

Tips:

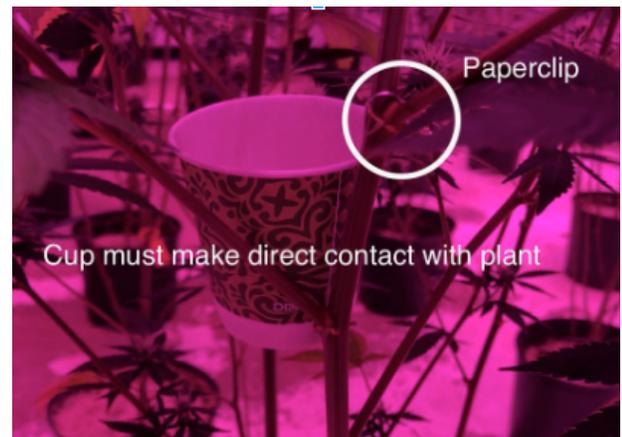
•If the mites fall off of the plants when you apply them you can try misting the plants with water before attempting to broadcast them. The water will act as an adhesive, preventing the mites from falling to the ground.

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Bulk Mite Cup Application

Mites are added to small cups that are then attached to the plant. The mites will crawl out of the cups and onto the plant.

- The cup or cups should be centrally located within the canopy or near hot spots
- A small plant (below 3') may only need 1 cup.
- For larger plants, or large plant with sparse foliage, 2 or more cups will work. Large trees can require over 5 cups.
- Cups should be placed onto the *plants* and not onto trellis
- With larger plants keep in mind that using several cups (release points) with a small amount of mites in each will offer better results than hanging a single cup stuffed with mites.



Tips:

- **When treating for russet mites using the cup method, ensure the cups are placed ABOVE the visible damage. This helps arrest the upward movement of the russet mites.**
- Placing a leaf or leaves into the cup can accelerate the exit of the mites from the cup
- When using something thin (like a paperclip) to attach the cups, make sure the lip of the cup is touching the plant. The mites need a large enough bridge between the cup and plant to travel onto the plant.
 - If you are unsure, just observe the mites; if they are not leaving the cup then you may need to





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make some adjustments.

Bulk Mite Mound Application

Create a small mound of predators at the base of the plant. Mites like *Persimilis* will run up the plant.



- This works best for small plants below 2 feet tall.
- Cucumeris 'breeding piles' can be created this way.

Tips:

Cucumeris breeding piles should **NOT** be created if *Dalotia* (rove beetles) are present in the soil. The beetles will consume the feeder mites in the piles and the *Cucumeris* population will collapse.