COLD WEATHER RESPONSE GUIDE WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE PESTS DURING COLD PERIODS

Thrips

Confirm ID: Check flowers and new growth for larvae and adults.

Cultural: Lower humidity <70%, increase airflow, remove blooms if possible.

If still in production:

- Limonica (59–86°F) or Thripex (59–77°F).
- Entonem drench if media ≥50°F.

If shutting down for cold-season:

 Remove plant material and clean thoroughly, apply beneficials if conditions allow— some species of thrips can overwinter in debris and soil.

Aphids

Confirm ID: Inspect woody stems and undersides of leaves for eggs or colonies. **Cultural:** Remove hotspots; reduce excess nitrogen.

If still in production:

• Aphipar-M (59–82°F); add Ervipar for large aphids.

If shutting down for cold season:

• Remove plant material—aphid eggs can overwinter on woody tissue or in plant debris.

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Whiteflies

Confirm ID: Check undersides of leaves for adults and nymphs.

Cultural: Remove damaged leaves, improve airflow.

If still in production:

• En-Strip (64–86°F) in heated zones.

If shutting down for cold-season:

• Remove plants and sanitize if in a heated greenhouse or warm area—whiteflies do not survive freezes or overwinter.

Two-Spotted Spider Mites (TSSM)

Confirm ID: Look for stippling, webbing, and mites on undersides.

Cultural: Remove weeds and debris near plant bases; avoid drought stress.

If still in production:

• Anso-Mite (active from 43°F).

If shutting down for cold-season:

• Strip debris/weeds and clean benches— TSSM overwinters as dormant adult females in debris/near hosts (including greenhouse crevices).

Fungus Gnats

Confirm ID: Adults on yellow cards; larvae in top 1–2 cm of media.

Cultural: Extend dry-down cycles; remove algae; top-dress with sand or perlite.

If still in production:

• Apply Entonem drenches in fall if media ≥50°F.

If shutting down for cold-season:

• Remove plants and sanitize if in a heated greenhouse or warm area—fungus gnats do not survive freezes or overwinter.