

Monitoring and Scouting Techniques for Plants

	Aphids	Plant Bugs	Shore Flies	Fungus Gnats	Leaf-miners	Mealy-bugs	Broad Mites	Spider Mites	Soft Scales	Armored Scales	Slugs	Thirps	White-flies	Caterpillars
MONITORING														
Sticky cards at top of pot	X	X	X	X	X							X	X	
Horizontal sticky trap at top of pot	X		X	X	X									
Trap/Indicator plants		X			X							X	X	
Place piece of potato on media			X	X										
SCOUTING														
Inspect underside of leaf	X					X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Inspect upper surface for stippling/small white spots								X				X		
Inspect leaves for mines within tissue					X									
Inspect new growth or terminal for feeding	X	X					X					X		
Lightly blow into flowers and look for movement												X		
Tap flowers over white surface and look for movement	X							X				X		
Press lower leaf on white card and look for spots on card								X						
White or brown spots on flowers												X		
Dark area on buds that are just opening														
Check leaves on media for feeding and larvae beneath			X	X								X		
OBSERVE FOR														
Honeydew or sooty mold on leaves	X					X			X	X			X	
Brown, callus-like spots on stems/leaves									X	X				
White, cottony mass on stems/leaves						X								
Holes in leaves											X			X
Small, clear, skeletonized spot on leaf											X			X
Cut edges of leaves											X			X
Frass on leaves														X
Small, black spots on leaves (fecal drops)			X									X		
Chlorotic (yellow) spots on upper leaf surface	X							X	X	X		X	X	
Wilting of new growth		X												
Cast skins on leaf from molting insect	X													
Curling of leaves	X						X							
Distortion of new growth	X	X				X	X						X	
Main stems of plants	X	X				X			X	X				
Slime trail on leaf											X			
Buds fail to open or uneven opening of flowers												X		
Webbing on leaves or flowers								X						
Gnat-like insects flying among plants			X	X										

Source: Adapted from Oetting, Ronald D. 1997. "Table: Omamenrals-Greenhouse Plants." In: 1997 Insect Control Guide. Willoughby: Meister Publishing.