

Biological control
Atheta (=Dalotia) coriaria

ATHETAcontrol | TECHNICAL DATA SHEET

PRODUCT:



- Tube with 500 individuals (1L)

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PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Atheta (=Dalotia) coriaria is a ground beetle that feeds on small insects and mites, including eggs, larvae, and pupae of sciarid fly and soil-associated stages of thrips, among others.

BIOLOGY. Adults are 3 to 4 mm long and dark brown in color. Adults live up to 21 days and females lay more than 100 eggs during their lifetime (hatching in 2 to 3 days). The larvae, which are yellow in color, live in the soil and are about 4 mm long.

The sex ratio is 1:1, i.e., they usually produce the same number of females as males.

Their ideal temperature is between 20ºC (68ºF) and 25ºC (77ºF). Below 15ºC (59ºF), *A. coriaria* becomes inactive.

MODE OF ACTION

- Both adults and larvae are very active predators.
- Adults spread very quickly in the area of release due to their ability to fly.
- It is a polyphagous insect; although it usually feeds on eggs of sciarid flies (up to 150 eggs) and thrips (20 per day), it can also consume mites, aphids and lepidopteran eggs.



Adult of *A. coriaria*



Larvae of *Atheta coriaria*

ADVANTAGES

- It can control different pests that have some of their larval stages in the soil. This fact makes it control the pest from early stages.

- Compatible with the release of other predators and parasitoids. It is recommended to release it with HYPOcontrol to improve its results against the sciarid fly.

- It can be used as a preventive and as a curative control method.

DOSAGE

- Preventive: 1 individual/m^2, at intervals of 1 to 2 weeks.

- Medium curative: 2 to 4 individuals/m^2, at intervals of 1 to 2 weeks.

- High curative: 5 to 10 individuals/m^2, at intervals of 1 to 2 weeks.

The recommended dose is indicative, it will vary according to the type of release (preventive, curative) and the climatology. Consult your Agrobío technician.

RECOMMENDED CROPS

It can be applied in both ornamental and horticultural crops, although it can also be used in arboriculture.

HANDLING

ATHETAcontrol should be spread in piles on the soil or substrate, just below the crops. It will spread quickly over the area. They adapt well to less conventional substrates, such as rockwool or coconut fiber.

They are most effective when introduced before the pest has become established (preventative dose) with one application per cycle usually being enough in these cases.

TRANSPORT AND STORAGE

Keep the tube in a horizontal position, at a temperature between 10 °C and 15 °C. Do not break the cold chain during transport and storage. Store for a maximum of 24 to 48 hours after receipt. Do not expose to direct sunlight and keep away from pesticide residues

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