



Q & A

With spring just around the corner, it might be a good idea to review some of the questions regarding insects we might get from clients when we are working in the MG™ Office.

Q. I've got ladybugs everywhere in my house and outside on the walls! What do I do?

1. Leave them alone, they will be gone in a week or so! (Remember, they are beneficials)
2. Inside the house, you can vacuum them up.

Q. I am cleaning up in my garden and every time I pick up a pile of leaves, there are huge black beetles under them. What to do?

A. They are probably not that huge, just appear that way! More than likely they are Carabid beetles, predatory beetles that feed on garden pests! They should be encouraged to stay around.

Q. I've had plants growing in my greenhouse all winter to keep them from freezing. Now there are fine webs all over the surfaces of the leaves. What is this?

A. Sounds like you have spider mites on the plants. Bring in a sample and we'll check it out. Insecticidal soap should take care of the problem.

Q. My irises are sending up new leaves, but something is chewing holes in them. What can I do?

A. Slugs are very active this time of year! Beer traps or safe commercial poison baits work wonders. Follow the directions carefully!

Q. Aphids are just covering the new growth on my roses. How do I get rid of them?

A. Remember the ladybugs in question one? This is why you leave them alone! Or you can wash them off with a spray of the garden hose! Commercial systemics work well on roses, too! Follow directions!

Q. I have hundreds of big, black ants crawling around in my house! Most have wings and they keep flying to the windows.

A. Most likely these are carpenter ants that are swarming. Bring samples in to the MG™ office. You may have to contact an exterminator to get rid of the colonies.

Q. I have lots of little moths flying around in my kitchen. What are they?

A. These are probably Indian meal moths which were brought into the house as eggs or larvae in packages of cereal products. Try finding the source of the infestation. Open your cereal boxes, rice, grains, nuts, etc. Any webbing inside the container will indicate a source. Get rid of (destroy) those packages and get some sticky traps to catch the adults. Never spray insecticides around food products!

These are just some of the more common questions that are asked by clients in the spring. There are many, many more that are also brought into the office. Always refer to the Insect Control Handbook

