

Aphids



Most aphids are $\frac{1}{8}$ " long and have "exhaust pipes" protruding from the back end of their pear-shaped bodies. Many species are green, but others are white, yellow, red (pink), brown, black, or mottled. They reproduce rapidly to form colonies or clumps, particularly on the new growth of plants.

Aphids have sucking mouthparts and feed exclusively on plant sap from stems, leaves, and even roots. Large numbers of aphids can reduce the vigor of plants. In some cases feeding causes distorted leaves, stunting and/or wilting. Some species of aphids transmit plant viruses.

Control

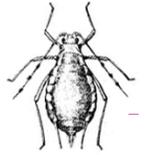
- Natural controls – such as weather and predators – eliminate significant numbers of aphids.
- Gardeners may use a strong jet of water to wash aphids off plants.
- Insecticidal soap controls aphids well, but must be applied frequently.

Provided by

wimastergardener.org



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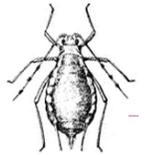
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Additional Resources

Aphids

- UW-Extension Publication A3757-E, *Vegetable Aphids*, at <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Vegetable-Aphids-P568.aspx>

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