

# Green Lacewing Adults

## *Mallada signata*

### Green lacewing adults

Lacewing adults feed on nectar, pollen and insect honeydews and lay their eggs on stalks usually in small groups and near likely pest hosts for the hatching larvae.

### Green lacewing larvae

Green lacewing larvae are important generalist predators feeding on moth eggs, aphids, scales, thrips, mites, lace bug and mealybugs.

The emerging larvae are very small (2mm) and go through several stages. They put debris from their prey on their backs as camouflage. After 2-3 weeks feeding they pupate and adults emerge about a week later.

### Lacewing releases

In the wild, when lacewing adults emerge from their pupal case they disperse and seek a food source before laying eggs.

In the insectory, we rear them through to adulthood and ship them to growers when several days old. They have been well fed in transit and are ready to lay eggs - there may be some lacewing eggs already laid in the container. Each adult female can lay up to 400 eggs and live for several weeks.

So, 100 females per pack x 100 to 400 eggs = 10,000 to 40,000 eggs from one pack.

Green lacewing adult releases are suitable for outdoor vegetables, field crops and orchards. Releases can also be useful in greenhouse crops to assist in controlling pest hot spots such as aphids and mealybugs.

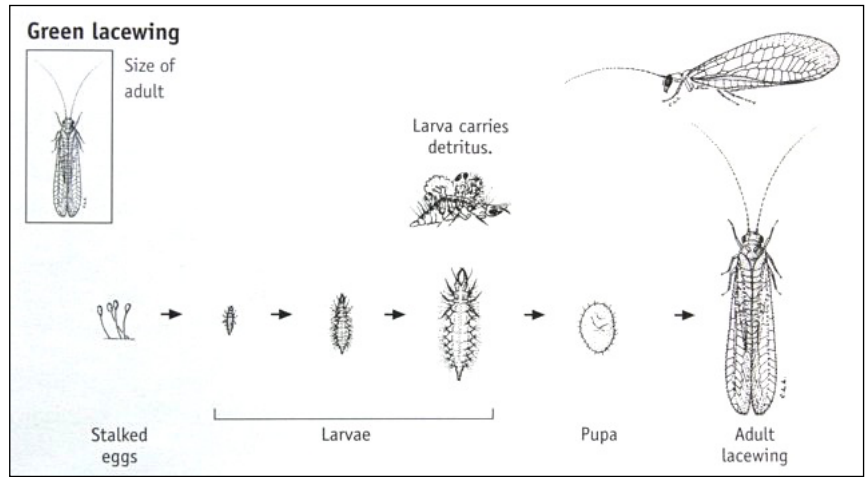
### Despatch method

Lacewing adults are sold in packs of 200+ (more than half females). Best results are achieved buying a regular release program.

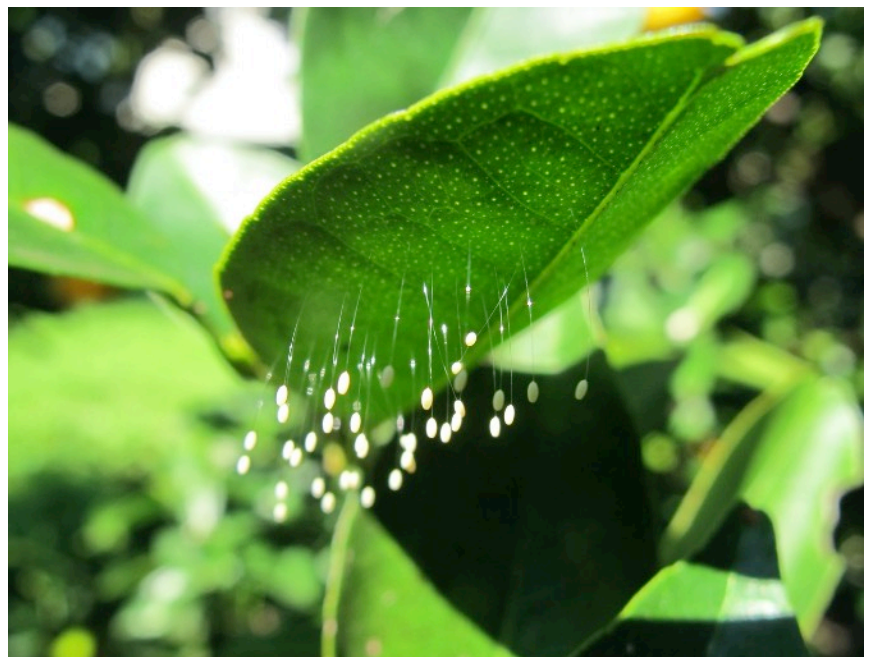
For example, releases 3 weeks apart for 6-8 releases are suggested. In indoor crops, hot spots may need more frequently releases.

Lacewing adults are reasonably cold tolerant. They will remain active on sunny winter days in most districts. Ideal conditions are 15-30°C.

On arrival, make sure the closed containers are not exposed to high temperatures or direct sunlight. If field conditions are potentially harmful (very wet or extreme heat) - keep the containers in a cool place or in an esky with icepicks until outdoor conditions improve.



Green lacewing adults feed on nectar and pollen and lay their eggs near likely prey for their young.



Green lacewing eggs are laid on fine stalks

## Releasing the adults

Release the adults at numerous locations, along the windward side of the crop or near known pest hot spots. Upon release, the adults are likely to move downwind and be attracted to prey for their young as well as food sources like honeydew from insects, nectar and pollen.

There will probably be some eggs already laid on the shredded paper, drop them over some leaves in a hot spot. If lacewing adults are stored in the container for an extra day after arrival, they will lay more eggs on the shredded paper for dropping into hot spots. If you do so, be sure to add a little honey to the paper towel.

## Release rates

Releases should start early in the crop cycle and continue every 2-3 weeks for at least several releases. For on-going issues releases can continue indefinitely.

In outdoor crops, we suggest 100 adults per hectare per delivery.

In greenhouses, we suggest releasing 1 adult lacewing per square meter each time.

## Pricing 2023 FY

Packs of 200+ lacewing adults per delivery.

\$75 per pack for 2 to 3 packs per delivery.

\$72 per pack from 4 to 7 packs per delivery.

\$69 per pack for 8 or more packs per delivery.  
(GST exclusive)

Note, there is a further discount of 5% for a program of 6 or more releases.

Add Express Postage

\$24 up to 4 packs and

\$30 for 5 or more packs.

Freight by Toll Priority costs a little extra.

**Place orders at:**

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Green lacewing larva feeding on aphid. Deposit debris on their backs for camouflage.



Lacewing adults are packed in plastic containers with shredded paper and a little honey for sustenance in transit.

