

Amblyseius cucumeris

- **Taxonomy:** Acarina: Phytoseiidae
- **Distribution:** Europe, Australia, North America, Asia, ...
- **Target pest:** *Frankliniella occidentalis* (Western flower thrips), *Thrips tabaci* (The onion thrips), *Tarsonemus pallidus* (Cyclamen mite), *Polyphagotarsonemus latus* (Broad mite), .
- **Development stages:** Egg – larva – protonymph – deutonymph – adult
- **Identification:** *Amblyseius cucumeris* is a transparent pale brown predatory mite of about 0.5 mm (1/50 in) long. Larvae, nymphs and adults are droplet shaped. The eggs are oval and transparent white and are deposited on hairs on the underside of leaves.
- **Mode of action:** The nymphs and adults of *Amblyseius cucumeris* feed on young thrips larvae (mainly 1st instar).
- **Product:** *Amblyseius cucumeris* is delivered in different formulations:
 - Sprinkle material or bulk: 2 liter (100,000 A.c.) or 3 liter (150,000 A.c.) pail mixed with bran.
 - CRS packs (slow release bags): 500 – 1,000 A.c. mixed with bran in a paper bag.
 - Breeding System: 2 liter (20,000 A.c.) or 3 liter (30,000 A.c.) pail mixed with bran. (contains more grain mites)
- **Introduction method:** *Amblyseius cucumeris* can be introduced in 3 different ways:
 - Sprinkle the bran (bulk) on the plants.
 - Apply 2.5 ml (Breeding System) with a spoon on the rockwool block. Make the heaps at the opposite side of the drip irrigation.
 - Make a hole in the CRS packs and hang them in the crop

Egg _ adult	11 days
Sex-ratio (% female)	65 %
Eggs/female	40 eggs
Life Cycle at 20 °C (68 °F)	
Longevity	3 weeks
Consumption/day	6 thrips larvae/day

Introduction Rate:

Slow release bags (CRS)		
preventative	1 CRS / 2 m_ (1 CRS / 20 ft_)	every 4 – 6 weeks (1 introduction on peppers)
curative	1 CRS / m_ (1 CRS / 10 ft_)	every 4 weeks
Breeder system		
preventative	2.5 ml on rockwool block	1X at the beginning of the crop
Sprinkle material (bulk)		
preventative	50 /m_ (5 / ft_)	every 1 – 2 weeks
curative	100 /m_ (10 / ft_)	every week