

Spider mites in home gardens



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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Two-spotted spider mite

- Often overlooked
- Often mistaken for disease
- Build up in hot dry weather



Two-spotted spider mite: identification



- **Tiny (1/60 inch)**
- **White with 2 black spots**
- **8 legs**

Two-spotted spider mite: hosts & symptoms

- **Tomato**
 - Yellow blotches
- **Bean**
 - White stippling



Two-spotted spider mite: hosts & symptoms

- Watermelon
 - Yellow blotches
 - Brown lesions



Two-spotted spider mite: diagnosis

- Fine webbing on leaf underside
- Scout by tapping leaf over paper, look for moving specks
- Early diagnosis for good control



webbing



Spider mite management



- Tolerable at low density
- Conserve natural predators
- Overhead irrigation can help
- Soft control:
 - Insecticidal soap
 - Horticultural Oil



Two-spotted spider mite

tested on snap bean leaves, 10/26/05;
3 replicates/treatment, 30 mites/replicate

