

Insect Management on Garden Tomatoes



Celeste Welty
Extension Entomologist
Ohio State University
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Topics

- **This 5-minute slideshow:**
 - Overview of tomato pests
 - Specifics on 4 pests
 - Summary of management options
- **25-minute narrated slideshow:**
 - Posted as resource for webinar
 - How to identify tomato pests
 - How to manage tomato pests



Tomato Pests:

no key pest but many occasional pests

Fruit	Leaves, stems
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hornworms *• Stink bugs• Fruitworm• Cutworms• Armyworms• Grasshoppers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hornworms• Aphids *• Whiteflies *• Spider mites *• Colorado potato beetle• Blister beetles• Flea beetles• Stalk borer

Hornworms



Consume leaves



Gnaw on fruit

- **Beware of camouflage**
- **Look for canopy top mowed off**

Hornworm biocontrol



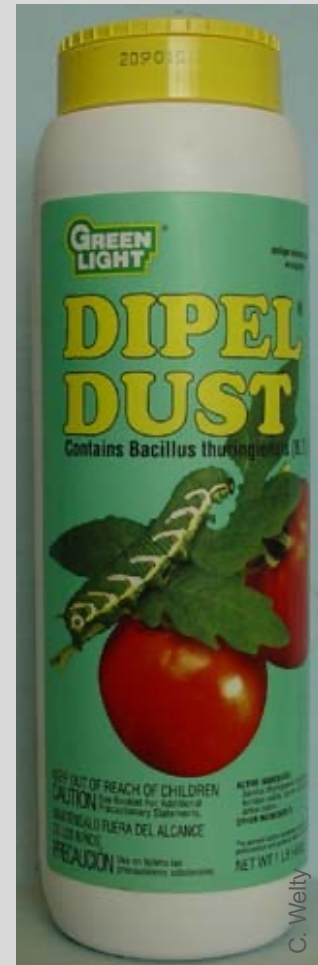
- Tiny parasitoid wasp: *Cotesia congregata*



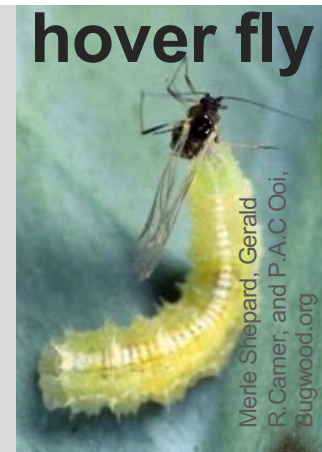
Hornworm management



- Mechanical: hand removal
- Encourage biocontrol
 - Avoid broad insecticides
- Use microbial insecticide (B.t.)
 - Spray or dust
 - ‘Dipel’ or ‘Thuricide’



Aphids



- Suck sap from leaves
- Many natural enemies
 - Encourage by not using broad-spectrum insecticides
- Suffocate with spray of insecticidal soap



Whiteflies



- Suck sap from leaves
- Damage done by immature nymphs on leaf undersides
- Need magnifier for eggs, nymphs
- Control by insecticidal soap

Two-spotted spider mite



- Suck sap
- Make webbing
- Hot dry weather
- Natural predators
- Sprays:
 - Insecticidal soap
 - Insecticidal oil



webbing



Summary:

Managing Tomato Pests

- **Scout weekly**
 - **For sporadic pests**
 - **Early detection is goal**
 - **For natural enemies**

Summary:

Managing Tomato Pests

- **Control tactics**
 - **Hand removal useful**
 - By hand picking
 - By tapping over bucket
 - By aspirating
 - **Insecticide**
 - Generally none needed
 - Microbial (B.t.) useful
 - Insecticidal soap useful



the end