



Biological control

Cryptolaemus montrouzieri

CRYPTOcontrol | Technical sheet

PRODUCT:

- Bottle of 25 adults, 100 adults, 500 adults, 1,000 adults
- Bottle of 500 larvae

DESCRIPTION OF THE PRODUCT

Cryptolaemus montrouzieri is a polyphagous predatory, that belongs to the Coleoptera order, although its maximum effectiveness is given by controlling large populations of **mealybugs**. Occasionally it feeds on other insects, such as aphids.

BIOLOGY. *Cryptolaemus montrouzieri* is a coccinellid predator. The eggs are shiny at first and take on a waxy appearance as they mature. Larvae can reach up to 13-14 mm in length. Their bodies are covered with waxy projections (especially in young ones) which make them similar to their prey. The adult is a beetle about 4mm long, dark brown.

The whole life cycle can vary between 4 and 7 weeks and depends a lot on temperature. The optimum conditions for its development are given at a temperature of 22-25°C and a RH of 70-80%. Below 9°C they show no activity.

ACTION MODE

- All stages of *C. montrouzieri* are mealybug predators. Adult ladybirds and young larvae prefer eggs, while late-stage larvae are not as selective. Once they capture the prey, they consume it completely. At 21°C a larva eats more than 250 second or third stage mealybug larvae during its development to the adult stage.
- Having such a broad diet, it can also appear in large numbers in red spider mite hot spots.



Product



Larva



Adult



ADVANTAGES

- Good behavior controlling other colonies, such as aphid and red spider.
- Compatible and complementary with other predators and parasitoids.

RECOMMENDED DOSE

- 2-10 individuals/m², release with the first signs of Cotonet.
- To establish a high population, it will take 1 to 2 months, depending on the temperature and the presence of available prey.

The dosage will vary according to preventive, medium curative or high curative dosage, depending on the crop and pest pressure. Consult the recommended dose with an Agrobío field advisor.

RECOMMENDED CROPS

Different horticultural, ornamental and fruit crops.

USE

Use the pieces of paper to release them, placing them in the hot spot homogeneously. Introduction should take place late in the afternoon or early in the morning.

PRESERVATION

Keep the box or bottle horizontally and at a temperature of 10-15 °C. Do not break the cold chain in all the transport and storage process. Do not store the product more than 48 hours after receipt, and never expose it to sunlight or pesticides.

Ask about other available formats. Check with local authorities which species are authorized. This document is only for informative purposes, Agrobío is not responsible for the improper use of the product.

