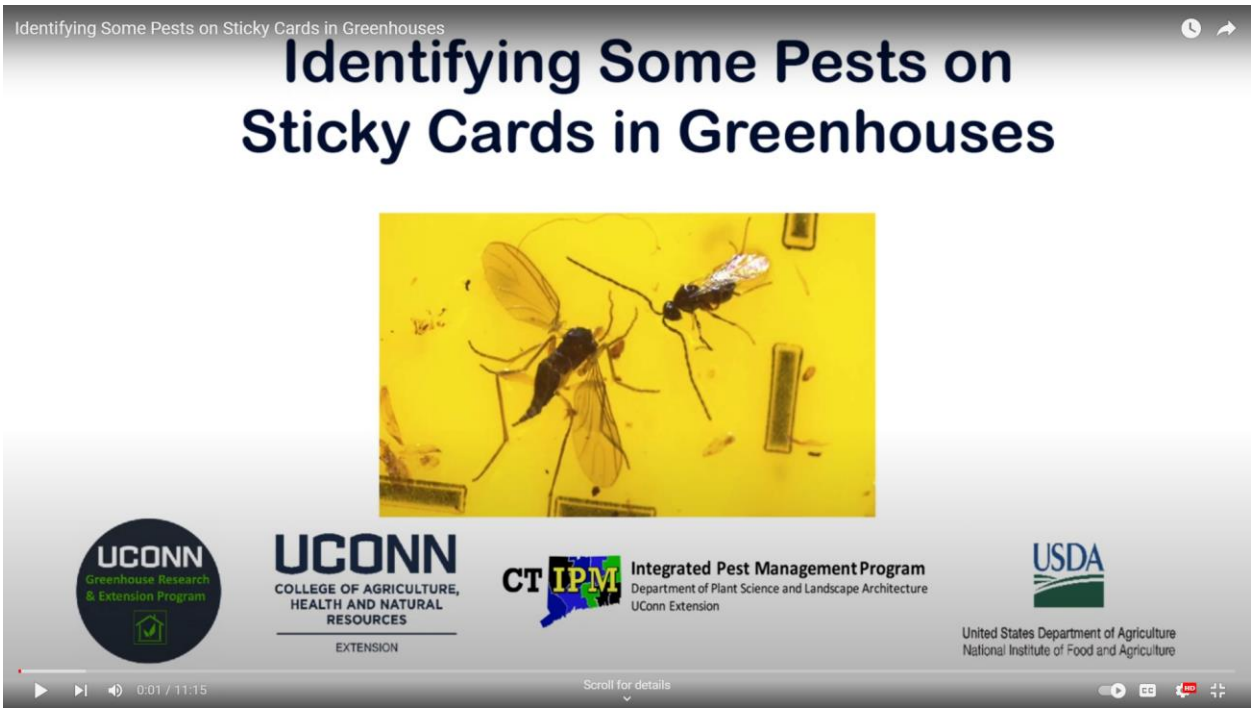
Greenhouse Pest Message, February 17, 2023
Leanne Pundt, UConn Extension

Scouting Tips and Training Resources for you

Inspecting Yellow Sticky Cards - Check out our new video:



Link to Video in English https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ofJ8fPBqBF0'

Link to Video in Spanish https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q_XhWv2ijNE

If you haven't seen our other videos, subscribe to UConn The Greenhouse Channel on YouTube

Link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJbcMQSF8bqpuzNjGUPweTw

Inspect Incoming Plugs
Inspecting incoming plants is the **most important** method to prevent problems. Look for insects, diseases, and cultural problems. Check the entire plug for general health and any pest activity.

Aphids – look for aphids along plant stems, the tips of new growth and the underside of leaves. New growth may be distorted.

Thrips – tap new growth over a sheet of white paper to look for thrips adults

and larvae. Distorted new growth and white scarring may be seen.

Fungus gnats- look for damaged root tips. Adults are not strong fliers and may be seen running along the media surface.

Two-spotted spider mites- look on the underside of leaves, especially along the midvein, for spider mites and their empty eggshells. Stippling or light flecking may be seen on the leaves.

Broad mites- look for signs of their damage: leaf edges curl downward, bronzing on underside of the leaves, hardened, distorted, or twisted growth. Because broad mites are so small, you need to use a dissecting microscope to look for their characteristic eggs.

Root health – roots should be white with vigorous growth, branching and root hairs. Brown, decayed roots are signs of either a root rot disease or root death due to overwatering or high salts.

Figure 1 & 2: White, Healthy roots on left and discolored, diseased roots on right. Photos by L. Pundt

Do not accept plant shipments with serious insects or diseases, especially those with wide host ranges. Incoming plants may be infested with resistant insects, spider mites or botrytis spores that will be more difficult to treat. When needed, contact your local diagnostic laboratory for more help.

The Plant Disease Information Office at CAES:
https://portal.ct.gov/CAES/PDIO/PDIO-Home/PDIO-Home

UConn Plant Diagnostic Laboratory: https://plant.lab.uconn.edu/

For More: **Scouting for Key Insect and Mite Pests on Key Plants** factsheet

Online at: https://ipm.cahnr.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/3216/2023/02/2019keypestkeyplantsscoutingbpperennials-6.pdf

You can use this as a starting point to develop your own scouting resource.

Check out more resources under **Scouting Tips** on Greenhouse IPM website https://ipm.cahnr.uconn.edu/greenhouse-publications/

Funding provided by USDA NIFA CPPM grant 2021-70006-35582.