

# Episyrphus Balteatus

Hoverflies are medium-sized insects. They have a characteristic, wasp resembling, yellow-black marking. Hoverflies can be distinguished from parasitic wasps by their typical "hovering" way of flying. Hoverflies does not sting. Adults of episyrphus balteatus feed themselves with nectar and pollen. The hoverfly larvae are 10 to 20 mm. in length, have a soft, transparent body and resemble slugs.

## Life cycle & relative effectiveness

Until the episyrphus larvae pupates in 1-2 weeks, it can consume 400-700 aphids. They subsequently latch their prey with their saliva and suck out. The larvae become active at temperature of 8°C. A humidity above 60% has a favorable influence on the effectiveness of the Episyrphus larvae. Hoverflies are highly susceptible to the use of chemicals. Therefore, min. 6 weeks before introduction no chemicals can be applied.

# Storage & handling

Keep the bottles horizontally, in darkness, at a temperature between 8°C - 10°C. Maximum storage of two days.

#### Package & volume

Episyrphus balteatus supplied in bottles (100 m.) containing 50 pupae.

## Application & dose

Episyrphus can be used against all kinds of aphids on crop with a smooth leaf surface. It's also possible to use hoverflies outside the greenhouse. After arrival, it must be plotted a.s.a.p. The larvae must be plotted on the affected plants, closely to the aphid colonies. To crop has to be moisture. As a result, the material will adhere to the leaf surface.

	Rate	Interval	Frequency	Opmerkingen
Preventive	50 per ha.	Weekly	-	-
Light curative	50 per ha.	Weekly	-	-
Heavy curatief	50 per ha.	Weekly	-	-

