

MITICIDE FACTS

Name	Notes	Uses
Akari (fenpyroximate)	Contact miticide. Good coverage is important. Effective on all stages of twospotted spider mites. Mites stop feeding and laying eggs once applied. Works fast with rapid knockdown	Greenhouse.
Avid (abamectin)*	Controls spider mites and other insects. Translaminar. Works on adult and immatures but not eggs. Best results when applied before foliage is hardened off. Compatible with predatory mites.	Field crops, shade house, greenhouse.
Floramite (bifenazate)	Selective against spider mites. Good coverage is important. Very compatible with predatory mites. Targets immature and adult stages. The pH needs to be 7.0 or lower.	Nursery, greenhouse, landscape.
Hexygon DF (hexythiazox)	Controls various spider mites. Works on contact and ingestion. No systemic activity. Does not kill adults. Ovicide (kills eggs). Best used early season or early infestation. Needs good spray coverage. Very compatible with predatory mites.	Nursery, greenhouse.
Judo (spiromesifen)*	Mite growth regulator (has insecticidal properties too). Translaminar. Affects all life stages, including eggs. Check label for phytotoxicity issues. Can be slightly toxic to some predatory mites.	Nursery (field or container), greenhouse, shade house.
Ovation (clofentezine)	Recommended one application per crop cycle. Activity against eggs and immatures, not adults. Contact miticide. Good coverage is important. Can be tank-mixed (see label). Soft on beneficials	Nursery (field or container), greenhouse, shade house
Sanmite (pyridaben)	Controls various spider mites. Suggested one application per season. Best used on low infestations. Immature mites are most susceptible. Not systemic but has some absorption into leaf tissues. Moderately harmful to predatory mites.	Outdoor, greenhouse, shade house.
Shuttle (acequinocyl)	Contact miticide. Good coverage is important. Effective against mobile stages by contact and ingestion. Some activity on eggs. Impacts predatory mite species differently.	Nursery, greenhouse, shade house.
TetraSan (etoxazole)*	Mite growth regulator. Activity against eggs and immatures, not adults. Eggs laid by adults will be sterile. Best used early, before infestations are high. Translaminar. Soft on beneficials. Toxic to predatory mite eggs. Slow to see results but long lasting.	Nursery, greenhouse, shade house.
Ulitiflora EC (milbemectin)	Broad-spectrum miticide. Same chemical class as Avid. Contact miticide. Good coverage is important. Active on all spider mite life stages. Reduced risk. Can be toxic to predatory mites.	Outdoor ornamentals.
Vendex (fenbutatin-oxide)	Particularly effective against twospot. Soft on predatory mites. Can be sensitive to some crops (check label). Contact miticide. Good coverage is important. Should be applied when average temperatures are above 70°F.	Nursery, greenhouse, landscape.

* Not systemic but translaminar. As long as you get coverage on the top of the leaf, it will move to the bottom where mites live.

even though they are OMRI listed, they are still pesticides. Always follow the safety requirements and a rotation schedule.

There are several options with biological controls. The most popular are the predatory mites *Phytoseiulus persimilis* and *Neoseiulus californicus*.

These mites are widely available from insectaries in California and Europe. With more competition and better rearing technologies, the quality of mites has gone up and the prices have come down.

One common misconception is that if you use biological controls, you have to stop spraying pesticides. This is not true. Almost all biological-control programs incorporate some pesticides. One of the many benefits of biocontrols is that you spray less,

OMRI stands for Organic Materials Review Institute. This is one of the independent companies that USDA uses to certify products for use on organic crops. There are other organizations, but OMRI is the most common.

so pesticides are more effective when you need them. Insects can't build resistance to pesticides if they're not used on them constantly.

If you haven't thought about incorporating biological controls into your twospotted spider mite program, now is the time.

Conventional miticides

There are many miticides on the market. To choose one, take a look at their characteristics and see which ones fit your needs. The first questions should be: Can this product be applied on my site? Is it for nursery, greenhouse or landscape use?

Next, find out what mite populations it works best on. This is why scouting and understanding your pest are so important.

