



# NATURAL SOLUTIONS

## AUSTRALIA



## Harmonia octomaculata

An Australian native predatory ladybird beetle for control of aphids

**PRIMARY PEST TARGETS:** Aphids & whiteflies.

**OTHER PEST TARGETS:** Thrips (including western flower thrips), scale insects, moth eggs & other pest mites.

**OPTIMUM TEMPERATURE & HUMIDITY RANGE:** 20–38°C, 50–90% relative humidity.

**LIFE CYCLE:** 2–3 weeks.

**COMPLEMENTARY BENEFICIALS:** *Harmonia conformis* & *Orius tantillus*.

**PACK SIZE:** 100 (or 50) *Harmonia octomaculata* adults per tube.

**INGREDIENTS:** Honey droplets & *Harmonia octomaculata* adults.

**RECOMMENDED RELEASE RATES:** Please see the table below as a guide and contact us for specific recommendations depending on the crop and infestation level.

TREATMENT TYPE	RELEASE RATES PER HECTARE	NUMBER OF RELEASES	INTERVAL BETWEEN RELEASES
Preventative	1,000–2,000 adults/ha	2–4	2 weeks
Curative	3,000–6,000 adults/ha	2–4	2 weeks
Hot spot treatment	1,000–2,000 larvae/ha	2–4	2 weeks

**WHEN TO RELEASE:** Release upon delivery is desirable. However, if necessary, *Harmonia octomaculata* tubes can be stored for up to 2–3 days at temperatures between 10–18°C.

**BIOLOGICAL CONSERVATION PRACTICES:** Crop diversification, use of microbial insecticides, such as *Bacillus thuringiensis*, and minimising pesticide use are fundamental conservation practices to optimise the natural biological control from *Harmonia octomaculata*. Plantings flowering plants where pollen is abundant will also help *Harmonia octomaculata* survive periods of scarce prey.

## ENQUIRIES

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