## LADYBUGS AND LACEWINGS

With this combination of Ladybugs and Green Lacewings you can have immediate results from the Ladybugs and continued results from the hatching Lacewings and their subsequent generations later, helping to keep your garden pest free all season long.

Refrigerate the container until the Ladybugs go dormant before opening. Water you garden.

GREEN LACEWING DIRECTIONS: Water your garden. Remove the small cup located inside the larger ladybug carton. Sprinkle the tiny, green eggs around your plants or divide into paper drinking cups and staple them to the plants stems. The lacewing eggs will hatch into larvae that crawl out and up into the plant looking for pests to eat. FACTS: Green Lacewing (Chrysoperla carnea) larvae eat many species of pest insects and mites including aphids, mites, whileflies, mealybugs, leafhoppers, thrips and caterpillar eggs. They are called 'Aphid Lions' because they can consume as many as 1000 aphids each day. The larvae are gray-brown in color and 1/8 inch long, and look like little alligators as shown. After feeding for two to three weeks, the lacewing larvae form a cocoon, the adult emerges five days later. Lacewing adults are ½ to ¾ inch long and have transparent, pale green wings. They feed on honeydew and pollen. The adults lay tiny pale green eggs on hair-like stalks attached to the underside of leaves or on bark. In several days the lacewing larvae hatch from the eggs ready to eat more pests. With the right conditions there can be several generations in a season. Tip: Do not feel discouraged because you have difficulty locating the Lacewings once they are released. The larvae are very secretive and do most of their foraging at night when water is available.

LADYBUG DIRECTIONS: Release after sunset or before sunrise, out of direct sunlight, after the area has been watered. Lady bugs do not fly at night, so they will have a chance to settle down and search for food and water. Shake a portion of them out of the carton into plants and bushes where they are likely to find food, store the remainder in the refrigerator and repeat every few days until all are released. In a few days those that find food will usually begin laying eggs under the leaves in little clusters. Soon the eggs will hatch into larvae which look like little black alligators with orange spots as shown. These are also beneficial, they only eat insects. In about 2 weeks they will become adults. FACTS: each ladybug (Hippodamia convergens) can devour up to 50 garden pests per day. Their favorite food is aphids, but they also eat scale, mealybug and mites. These ladybugs are pre-fed to help break their natural instinct to fly. Tip: when Ladybugs are purchased in the spring the package will contain some dead bugs because they have reached the end to their natural one year life. Extra bugs are added to allow for this.

Ladybugs and Green Lacewings are vulnerable to pesticides. Pesticides should not be used 14 days before or any time after release.



## Other Orcon Products Available:

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