



**Tales from the Field, Sept 26, 2014**

**Hunter Flies, Easter Lily Schedule, Greenhouse Weed Control, Upcoming Programs**

Leanne Pundt, Extension Educator, Greenhouse IPM

**Poinsettias** – are generally looking good, with fewer whitefly issues than 2012, at least so far!

### **Hunter Flies**

When visiting poinsettia growers, I have been seeing adult *hunter flies*, on yellow sticky cards and perching on leaves. Adults attack primarily fungus gnats and shore flies and perch on a leaf to wait for their prey. Don't confuse these beneficial flies with shore flies. Hunter flies have clear shiny wings with no spots and are about twice the size of shore flies. The soil dwelling larvae are also predaceous, feeding of the soft bodied fungus gnat larvae.



**Figure 1: Close-up of adult hunter fly perching on a leaf. Note clear wings. Photo L. Pundt**

If you are growing Easter Lilies, the **Easter Lily Schedule** by Rich McAvoy is now on the UConn IPM website. Click [here](#) for the schedule.

**Weeds** – Now is a good time to clean up your greenhouse if you are not growing poinsettia and are finished shipping mums. See [Greenhouse Weed Control](#) for options.

There is now a pre-emergence herbicide (Marengo®) labeled for use on greenhouse floors in **empty greenhouses**. You must wait 24 hours before introducing plant material into the empty greenhouse after applying this material.

**Mainspring** (cyantraniliprole) from Syngenta is now registered in Connecticut, which may help address some of the needs for insecticide rotations. It is in the IRAC Group 28, which is a new mode of action for greenhouse use. Mainspring is labeled for caterpillars, leaf miners, thrips, and whiteflies as a foliar spray with translaminar and systemic activity. It is labeled as a drench for aphids and *Bemisia* whiteflies. It is best used as a preventive and with long lasting control (~6 weeks) as a drench.

**2015-16 New England Greenhouse Floriculture Guide Will Be Available at Special Conference Price** of \$30 per copy at the **Northeast Greenhouse Conference and Expo**. The new edition presents several new features:

\* The disease management section has been rewritten into a new format, making it easier to use than ever before.

\* A discussion of neonicotinoid insecticides and their potential impact on nontarget insects such as bees has been added, to help growers make informed decisions about pest management products.

After the conference, it will be available for \$40 per copy via the Northeast Greenhouse Conference website ([www.negreenhouse.org](http://www.negreenhouse.org)).

### **Upcoming Programs for You**

**The Northeast Greenhouse Conference and Expo.** Nov. 5 & 6, Mass Mutual Center, Springfield, MA  
Program and registration information online at: [www.negreenhouse.org](http://www.negreenhouse.org).

**Growing Container-Grown Greenhouse Vegetables. Dec 16, 2014** at the Litchfield County Extension Center, 843 University Drive, in Torrington, CT.

For more information contact: Leanne Pundt at [leanne.pundt@uconn.edu](mailto:leanne.pundt@uconn.edu) or call 860.626.6855 or visit the website: <http://ipm.uconn.edu> or click [here](#) to view the program and registration form.

### **Spring Bedding Plant Meetings**

Feb 3rd at the Litchfield County Extension Center, Torrington, CT

Feb 5<sup>th</sup> at the Tolland County Extension Center, Vernon, CT.

½ day educational program repeated at two locations.

More details coming soon.

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