







# Common Garden Pests

PEST	PICTURE	LIFE CYCLE	NATURAL ENEMIES	CULTURAL PRACTICES
<b>Aphids</b> Pest Note 7404 (PN7404)		egg → nymph → adults (male + female) → egg	Lacewing larvae, lady beetles (adults & larvae), syrphid fly larvae, parasitic wasps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove nearby weeds</li> <li>Minimize nitrogen fertilizer use</li> <li>Protective row covers</li> <li>Reflective mulches</li> <li>Knock off with strong water spray</li> </ul>
<b>Hornworm</b> <a href="http://tinyurl.com/kngtmt">tinyurl.com/kngtmt</a>		egg → larvae (caterpillar) → pupa → adult (moth)	Parasitic wasps: Trichogramma (attack eggs), Hyposoter exiguae (larvae)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crop rotation</li> <li>Discing after harvest</li> <li>Hand picking off plants /snipping with shears</li> <li>Organic sprays</li> </ul>
<b>Snails &amp; slugs</b> Pest Note 7427 (PN 7427)		egg → adult	Parasitic flies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hand pick off plants or from under plants</li> <li>Plant snail-proof plants</li> <li>Eliminate excessive moisture in garden</li> <li>Remove hiding places /shelter for snails and slugs</li> </ul>
<b>Whiteflies</b> Pest Note 7401 (PN7401)		egg → crawler → 3 larval stages → adult	Lacewings, lady beetles, parasitic wasps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spray undersides of leaves with water</li> <li>Remove and dispose of heavily-infested leaves</li> <li>Row covers, sticky yellow traps, ant control, silver/aluminum mulch</li> </ul>
<b>Thrips</b> Pest Note 7429 (PN7429)		egg → nymph → pre-pupa → pupa → adult → egg	Predatory thrips, lacewing larvae, predatory mites, minute pirate bugs, parasitic wasps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove nearby weeds</li> <li>Plant resistant cultivars</li> <li>Protective row covers</li> <li>Prune out infested plant parts</li> <li>Minimize nitrogen fertilizer use</li> <li>Reflective mulches</li> <li>Knock off with strong water spray</li> </ul>
<b>Squash bugs</b> Pest Note 74144 (PN 74144)		egg → nymph → adult	Tachnid fly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspect plants and destroy egg cases</li> <li>Place bucket of water under leaves and tap leaves (squash bugs will fall in and drown)</li> <li>Cut out heavily infested leaves and dispose in the garbage (do not compost)</li> <li>Remove old plants and keep garden free of rubbish</li> </ul>

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<b>Ants</b> Pest Note 7411 (PN7411)		egg → larvae → pupa → adult worker (or adult queen)	Birds, rodents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove food and water sources in the home</li> <li>• Eliminate moist areas around the house</li> <li>• Ensure trees and shrubs don't touch buildings</li> <li>• Caulk entry points</li> <li>• Install ant bait stations</li> </ul>
<b>Grasshoppers</b> Pest Note 74103 (PN74103)		egg → nymph → adult	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hand pick (effective on low populations)</li> <li>• Cover plants during a heavy invasion (marginally effective)</li> </ul>
<b>Borers</b> (flathead beetles) UC IPM ANR Publication 3454		egg → pupa → adult beetle	Woodpeckers, mites, carpenter ants, parasitic wasps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whitewash tree trunks to prevent sunburn</li> <li>• Prune to shade larger branches</li> <li>• Avoid water stress and under-fertilizing</li> <li>• Prune out badly infested wood</li> </ul>
<b>Spider mites</b> Pest Note 7405 (PN7405)		egg → nymph → adult	Lacewings, lady beetles, predatory mites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spray off mites with water early on</li> <li>• Control dust on paths and adjacent unpaved roads (with light water spray)</li> <li>• Water plants adequately</li> </ul>
<b>Scale</b> Pest Note 7408 (PN7408)		egg → crawler → several larval stages → adult	Parasitic wasps, lady beetles, lacewings, mites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide proper growing conditions, especially irrigation</li> <li>• Choose relatively pest-free plants</li> <li>• Plant flowering plants to attract natural enemies</li> <li>• Prune to improve air movement and light penetration</li> <li>• Prune out heavily infested branches</li> </ul>
<b>Cutworms</b> <a href="http://tinyurl.com/o7aeluc">tinyurl.com/o7aeluc</a>		egg → caterpillar → moth → egg	Parasitic wasps, parasitic flies, ground beetles, lacewings, praying mantids, ants, birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect seedlings with cardboard collars, screens, or cloth</li> <li>• Use sticky collars for climbing cutworms</li> <li>• Keep garden weed free</li> </ul>

To locate the specific Pest Note go to [www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES) and type in the Pest Note # (e.g., PN7404) in the "Search Home & Landscape" field.

Photo credits: William F. Meyer, UC Statewide IPM Program (snail); Jack Kelly Clark, UC Statewide IPM Program (all insects and bugs except snail)