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# **Agri Roots**

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# **Major Pests of Ornamental Plants**

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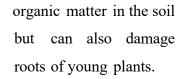
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rnamental plants can be affected by a variety of pests that can cause damage to their foliage, stems, flowers, and overall health. Here are some major pests commonly found on ornamental plants:

- 1. Aphids: Small, soft-bodied insects that suck sap from plants, leading to curled leaves and stunted growth. They can
- **2. Spider Mites:** Tiny arachnids that create fine
- webs on the undersides of leaves. They feed on plant sap, causing stippling and yellowing of leaves.
- **3. Whiteflies:** Small, white flying insects that also suck sap from plants. They can cause leaf yellowing and are known for producing honeydew, which can lead to sooty mold.
- **4. Scale Insects:** These pests appear as small, waxy bumps on stems and leaves. They feed on plantsap and can weaken plants significantly.
- **5. Mealybugs:** White, cottony-looking insects that feed on plantsap. They can cause leaf drop and stunted growth and are often found in clusters.

- **6. Thrips:** Tiny, slender insects that can cause damage by feeding on flowers and leaves, resulting in silvery streaks or spots. They can also transmit viruses.
- 7. Fungus Gnats: Small flies whose larvae feed on



- 8. Caterpillars: Larvae of moths and butterflies that can cause significant defoliation by feeding on leaves.
- **9. Slugs and Snails:** Mollusks that feed on leaves, stems, and flowers, leaving irregular holes and slime trails.
- **10. Japanese Beetles:** These beetles feed on the foliage and flowers of many ornamental plants, causing skeletonization of leaves.
- 11. Borers: Insects like the lilac borer or dogwood borer that tunnel into stems and trunks, weakening the plant and potentially leading to its death.
- **12. Leafhoppers:** Small, jumping insects that feed on sap and can transmit diseases to plants.
- **13. Root Weevils:** These pests feed on roots and can cause wilting and decline in overall plant health.

## Conclusion

consider integrated pest management (IPM) strategies, which may include biological control, cultural practices, and targeted pesticide use when necessary.

### References

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To manage these pests, it's essential to regularly

inspect plants, maintain good cultural practices, and

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