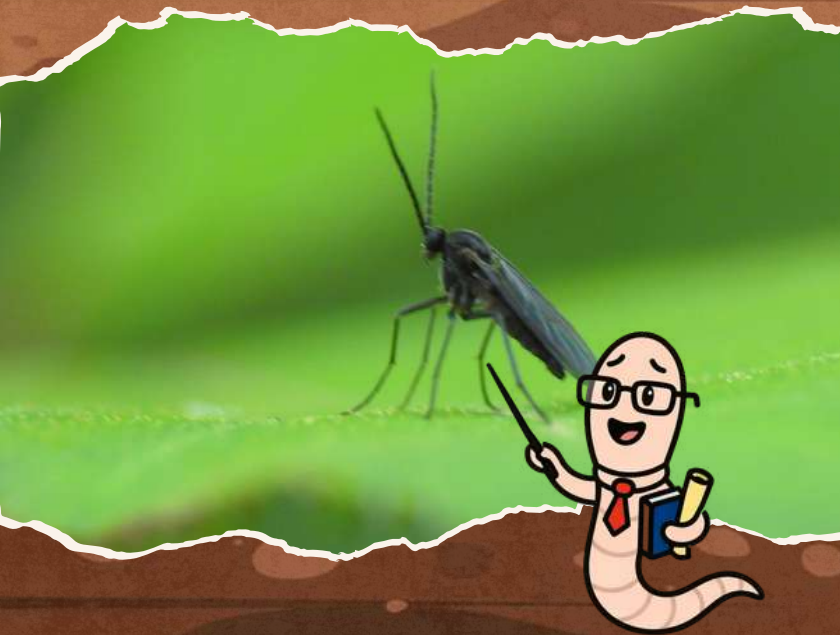




STRIJTVEEN
WAGENAAR



MANUAL

NEMATODES AGAINST FUNGUS GNATS & YELLOW STICKY TRAPS

HOW TO RECOGNIZE MOURNING FLIES

HOW TO RECOGNIZE A MOURNING FLY

Fungus gnats are small, dark flies that often fly around houseplants. They resemble fruit flies, but are usually found around the potting soil rather than near fruit or waste.

THIS IS HOW YOU RECOGNIZE THE DAMAGE

- ✓ Small black flies around plants
- ✓ Flies that fly up when watering
- ✓ Larvae in moist potting soil
- ✓ Young plants that are growing less well

CHECK IF YOU HAVE MOURNING FLIES

Tap the pot gently or give it a little water. Are small black flies flying up out of the potting soil? Then you probably have fungus gnats.

WHERE ARE THE LARVAE?

The larvae live in the moist top layer of the potting soil. There they feed on organic material and sometimes on young roots.



BEFORE YOU BEGIN

MAKE THE POTTING SOIL SLIGHTLY MOIST

If necessary, give the potting soil a small amount of water first. The soil should be slightly moist, but not soaking wet.

INDOORS OR OUTDOORS

For houseplants, you can apply the nematodes all year round. Are you using them outdoors? Then check that the soil temperature is at least 10 °C.

ALSO USE THE YELLOW TRAP PLATES

Place the yellow sticky traps directly near the plants. The nematodes control the larvae in the potting soil, while the traps catch the adult fungus gnats.

TREAT ALL PLANTS

Fungus gnats spread easily. Therefore, treat all plants where fungus gnats are present, even if you only see many gnats on one plant.

EXPECTATION

The first results are usually visible after 2 to 3 weeks. In case of extensive damage, a second treatment may be necessary.



STEP 1: MIX THE NEMATODES

Mix the entire contents of the sachet with lukewarm water. Use 0.2 liters of water per plant. Stir the mixture well and let it stand for about 15 minutes. Then stir again and rinse the empty bag with a little water so that no nematodes remain.

STEP 2: DILUTE THE MIXTURE

Use the calculation: Number of plants x 0.2 liters of water

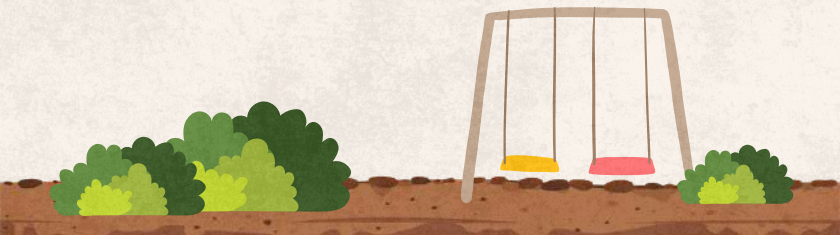
5 plants = 1 liter of water

10 plants = 2 liters of water

20 plants = 4 liters of water

30 plants = 6 liters of water

Gently spread the mixture over the potting soil. Stir regularly in between so that the nematodes remain evenly distributed.



WATERING OVERVIEW

Distribute the water with nematodes evenly over the plants.
Give large plants a little more water with nematodes and small plants a little less.

Number of plants:	Mix nematodes with a liter of water:
1 plant	0,2 liter water
2 plants	0,4 liter water
3 plants	0,6 liter water
4 plants	0,8 liter water
5 plants	1 liter water
6 plants	1,2 liter water
7 plants	1,4 liter water
8 plants	1,6 liter water
9 plants	1,8 liter water
10 plants	2 liter water
20 plants	4 liter water
30 plants	6 liter water

Number of plants x 0.2 liters of water = Amount of liters of water



STEP 3: DISTRIBUTE THE NEMATODES

Gently pour the mixture over the potting soil. Ensure the top layer becomes evenly moist, as that is where most of the larvae are located.

Do not pour over the leaves. The nematodes must end up in the potting soil.

STEP 4: KEEP THE POTTING SOIL SLIGHTLY MOIST

Keep the potting soil slightly moist for 5 to 7 days after treatment. Not soaking wet, but do not let it dry out either.

Do you still see many fungus gnats after 2 to 3 weeks? Then a second treatment may be necessary.



WHY MOURNING FLIES CAUSE HARM

THE LARVAE LIVE IN THE POTTING SOIL

Fungus gnat larvae live primarily in moist potting soil. They feed on organic material and can eat young roots.

YOUNG PLANTS ARE MORE SENSITIVE

Cuttings, seedlings, and young plants are particularly susceptible to root damage. Larger plants usually show visible damage less quickly.

ADULT FLIES REMAIN VISIBLE FOR A SHORT TIME

Nematodes attack the larvae in the potting soil. The adult flies can continue flying around for a while.

MOIST POTTING SOIL ATTRACTS THEM

Fungus gnats like to lay eggs in moist potting soil. Therefore, watering well is at least as important as treatment.



HOW DO NEMATODES WORK?

STEP 1: LOOKING FOR LARVAE

Nematodes move through the moist potting soil and search for fungus gnat larvae.

STEP 2: PENETRATE AND DISABLE

They penetrate the larva through natural openings and disable it from the inside.

STEP 3: FURTHER DISTRIBUTION

The nematodes can multiply inside the eliminated larva. Afterwards, they continue searching for new larvae.

STEP 4: WHAT YOU NOTICE

The adult flies do not disappear immediately. The larvae are dealt with in the potting soil, so you usually see a clear difference after 2 to 3 weeks.



LIFE CYCLE OF THE MOURNING FLY

ALL YEAR ROUND

Fungus gnats can breed indoors all year round, especially at warm temperatures.

EGGS

Adult fungus gnats lay their eggs in moist potting soil, close to the roots.

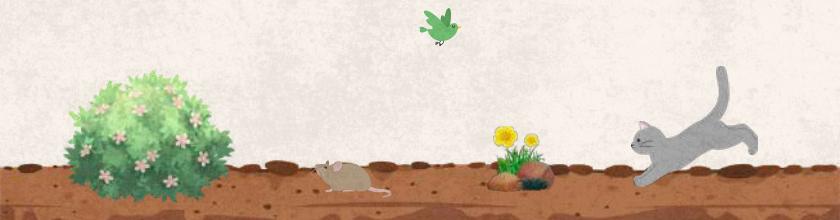
LARVAE

After a few days, the larvae hatch. They live in the top layer of the potting soil and can feed on young roots.

This is the best phase to treat.

ADULT MOURNING FLIES

After pupating, the adult fungus gnats fly out. They then lay eggs again, causing the cycle to keep repeating.



PREVENT NEW MOORWIVES

DO NOT GIVE TOO MUCH WATER

Allow the top layer of the potting soil to dry out slightly between waterings. Fungus gnats like to lay their eggs in moist potting soil.

WATER FROM BELOW

Preferably water plants via the saucer. This keeps the top layer drier and less attractive to new eggs.

REMOVE DEAD PLANT REMAINS

Remove dead leaves and other organic material from the pot. This reduces the attractiveness of the potting soil to fungus gnats.

KEEP USE THE STICKER PLATES

Leave the yellow sticky traps in place for a few more weeks. This way, you will also catch the adult fungus gnats that hatch after the treatment.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHEN WILL I SEE RESULTS?

You usually see a clear difference after 2 to 3 weeks. Adult flies may continue flying around for a while longer, while the larvae are already being attacked.

I STILL SEE MOURNING FLIES. IS THAT NORMAL?

Yes. Nematodes work primarily against the larvae in the potting soil. Use yellow sticky traps to catch adult fungus gnats.

DO I NEED TO TREAT ALL PLANTS?

Treat all plants where you see fungus gnats. Are the plants close together? Then preferably treat them as well.

CAN I REPOT MY PLANT?

That is possible, but treat with nematodes afterwards anyway. Eggs or larvae can end up in new potting soil again.



HOW DO YOU USE YELLOW SAFETY PLATES?



STEP 1: REMOVE THE FOIL

First remove the plastic protective layer from the catch plate so that the sticky surface is exposed.

STEP 2: PLACE THE CATCHER PLATE IN THE GROUND

Insert the sticky trap firmly into the potting soil or earth, close to the plant where you see the most insects.

STEP 3: ENSURE THE CORRECT HEIGHT

Place the sticky trap at leaf level. Insects are attracted by the color and fly right into it.

STEP 4: KEEP CHECKING AND REPLACING

Regularly check if the plate is covered with insects or dust. If it is well covered, use a new trap plate to ensure it remains effective.



EXTRA TIPS FOR YELLOW SAFETY PLATES

DO NOT USE TOO FEW STICKY TRAPS

It is better to place slightly too many than too few. Indoors, one sticky trap per two to three plants is a good guideline; in a greenhouse or vegetable garden, distribute them over the entire affected area.

USE YELLOW STICKY TRAPS PREVENTIVELY AS WELL

Place a few plates near sensitive plants, even if you don't see an infestation yet. Black dots or streaks on the plate are often the first sign of fungus gnats.

DO NOT HANG THEM DIRECTLY IN FULL SUN.

In bright sunlight, the adhesive layer can dry out faster, causing the plate to function properly for a shorter period. It is better to place them just out of direct sunlight, but close to the plants.

TOUCH THE ADHESIVE LAYER AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE

Hold the sticky trap on the underside where there is no adhesive layer. The less you touch the adhesive layer, the better it sticks and the more insects it catches.

