

# BENEFICIAL INSECTS ARE YOUR ALLIES

## Collops



**Collops Beetle.** *Collops spp.* The collops adults feed on eggs and small larvae of cotton bollworm, tobacco budworm, and armyworm. They also prey on aphids, spidermites, white flies and stink bug eggs.

## Minute Pirate Bug



**Minute Pirate Bug.** *Orius insidiosus.* Adults and nymphs use their beaks to to suck out the fluids from thrips, aphids and eggs and small larvae of cotton bollworm and tobacco budworm.



## Assassin Bug

**Assassin Bug.** *Zelus renardii.* Assassin bugs attack the moving adults and nymphs of many insects. Assassin bugs are one of the few predators that can capture large caterpillars and adult boll weevils.

## Lady Bug Adults, Larvae and Eggs



**Ladybug Eggs (top) Larva (Middle and bottom).** *Chilocorus, Coccinellidae and Olla spp.* Larvae feed mostly on aphids, but will also attack eggs and small larvae of cotton bollworm and tobacco budworm.

**Ladybug Adult.** *Chilocorus, Coccinellidae and Olla spp.* Not all ladybugs are red or have spots. Good identification is important as the larval stage resembles a small alligator and is sometimes mistaken for a pest.

## Green Lacewing Adult, Larva and Eggs



**Green Lacewing Adult.** *Chrysoperla spp.* Green lacewing adults do not feed on insects. They feed mostly on honeydew, nectar and pollen.



**Green Lacewing Eggs** *Chrysoperla spp.* Green lacewing eggs are laid on a hair-like filament to prevent cannibalism by their sibling larvae.



**Green Lacewing Larva.** *Chrysoperla spp.* Larva prey on aphids and eggs and small larvae of cotton bollworm, tobacco budworm, and armyworms.

Beneficial insects are a major source of control of insect pests in southeastern New Mexico. Alfalfa is likely a major source of beneficial insects. Insecticides that do not kill beneficial insects are available.

## Damsel Bug (Nabid)



**Damsel Bug.** *Nabis spp.* Adults and nymphs feed on cotton bollworm and tobacco budworm eggs and small larvae. They also feed on aphids, fleahoppers, lygus and tarnished plant bugs.

## Bigeyed Bug



**Bigeyed Bug.** *Geocoris spp.* The bigeyed bug nymphs and adults eat the eggs and larvae of cotton bollworm, tobacco budworm, aphid, mite, and tarnished plantbugs.

## Crab Spider



**Spider.** Many species. Spiders feed on many insects, pests and beneficials.