

Lady beetles

(Coleoptera: Coccinellidae)

About 400 species of lady beetles are found in North America. Several species have been introduced to control pests. Almost all lady beetles prey, as both larvae and adults, on soft-bodied pests such as aphids, mites and scales.

One larva can consume hundreds of prey during its development. Because of their voracious appetites and ability to multiply rapidly, lady beetles can control even large infestations of pests. They are important predators of orchard pests, especially aphids. The two most common species in the Northwest are the [convergent](#) and [transverse](#) lady beetles.

Copyright

The book, *Orchard Pest Management*, is copyrighted by the Washington State Fruit Commission. Permission is granted by the Commission to Washington State University to publish the book's content on the World Wide Web.