

ALEYRODES PROLETELLA

# CABBAGE WHITEFLY

## LIFE CYCLE, DAMAGE SYMPTOMS AND CONTROL



There are usually four to five generations per year. The development of a generation varies from three to six weeks. In places with cold winters, cabbage whiteflies overwinter as adults on brassica plants in sheltered locations and migrate into crops to lay eggs from mid-May onwards.

### 2 LARVA

There are four larval instars. The larva 1st instar (crawler) is oval, flat and transparent with yellow body contents showing. When the 4th instar larva reaches full size, it pupates inside the larval skin, which is called a puparium.



### 1 EGG

The oval eggs are laid on their sides but may have a peg at one end that is inserted into the leaf. Pale at first, darkening over the next few days, and with a yellow spot inside.



### 3 ADULT

1,5 mm in length, with white wings with four gray spots. The wings are white due to a powdery wax. The head and thorax are dark, while the underside is yellow and also covered with a layer of wax. The eyes are red.



### DAMAGE SYMPTOMS

It is found in colonies on the underside of leaves. They suck from the phloem of the leaves and excrete honeydew, causing mould growth.



### CONTROL

Removing weed host plants.  
Having a break in the year from growing Brassicacea plants.  
Removing leaves with large numbers of juvenile whitefly and burying or composting the leaves.  
Spraying the underside of leaves with soapy water will kill adult whiteflies before they lay eggs, and to kill the young larvae.  
Insecticide sprays should be directed onto the undersides of leaves.