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Lacewings

Today on Gardening in a Minute: lacewings.

Lacewings are beneficial insects that should be allowed to live in your garden.

There are two kinds of lacewings: green and brown. Besides the differences in color, the two kinds are very similar in appearance.

Adult lacewings have two pairs of wings, chewing mouthparts, and long, thin bodies. As their name suggests, the wings of these insects are lace-like and transparent with many veins.

Lacewing larvae resemble small caterpillars, but move more quickly and have longer legs and mouthparts. Some brown lacewing larvae cover themselves with debris.

Lacewings are considered beneficial insects because they eat aphids and other pests, and they don't bite or sting.

You can buy lacewing eggs and larvae for release in your garden to help with insect pest problems.

For more information about lacewings and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida's Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.