



STRIJTVEEN
WAGENAAR



MANUAL
NEMATODES AGAINST CATERPILLARS

HOW TO RECOGNIZE CATERPILLARS

HOW TO RECOGNIZE A CATERPILLAR

Caterpillars are the larvae of butterflies or moths. They have an elongated body, crawl over leaves, and often sit on or under the leaf.

THIS IS HOW YOU RECOGNIZE THE DAMAGE

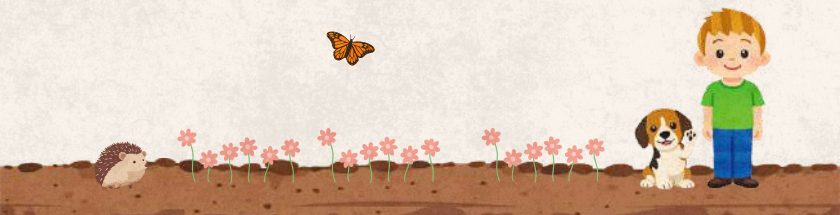
- ✓ Holes in leaves
- ✓ Eaten leaf edges
- ✓ Small black droppings on or under the plant
- ✓ Sometimes webbing or rolled-up leaves

CHECK IF YOU HAVE CATERPILLARS

Pay particular attention to the underside of leaves and young shoots. Do you see caterpillars, droppings, or fresh feeding damage? Then you probably have caterpillars on the plant.

WHERE ARE CATERPILLARS?

Caterpillars are often hidden on the underside of leaves, between young shoots, or in rolled-up leaves. Therefore, check not only the visible damage but also the surrounding areas.



BEFORE YOU BEGIN

MOISTEN THE PLANT

Lightly moisten the leaves before treatment. This ensures the nematodes remain on the leaf better and dry out less quickly.

CHECK THE TEMPERATURE

Nematodes against caterpillars work from a temperature of 12 °C. Do not treat in cold, strong sunlight, or strong winds.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT MOMENT

Preferably treat in the evening or in cloudy weather. This gives the nematodes more time to reach the caterpillars.

TREAT THE WHOLE PLANT

Treat not only the visible damage, but also the underside of leaves, young shoots, and places where caterpillars can hide.

EXPECTATION

The first results are usually visible after 1 to 2 weeks. In case of extensive damage, a second treatment may be necessary.



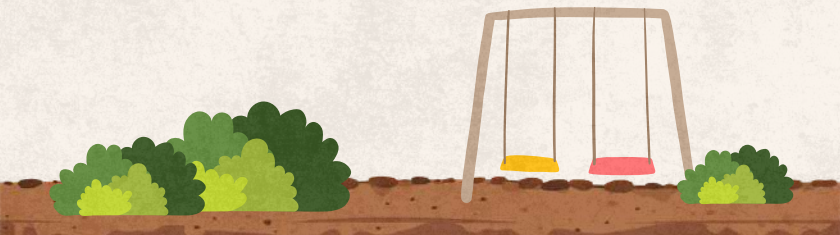
STEP 1: MIX THE NEMATODES

Mix the entire contents of the sachet with 1 liter of lukewarm water. Stir the mixture well and let it stand for about 15 minutes. Then stir again and rinse the empty sachet with a little water so that no nematodes remain.

STEP 2: DILUTE THE MIXTURE

Use enough water to thoroughly moisten the plant. The leaves should become slightly wet, especially in areas where caterpillars are present.

Stir regularly during distribution so that the nematodes remain evenly distributed.



STEP 3: DISTRIBUTE THE NEMATODES

Apply the mixture evenly to the plant. Treat especially the areas where you see caterpillars, droppings, or feeding damage.

Don't forget the underside of leaves and young shoots. Caterpillars are often hiding there.

STEP 4: KEEP THE LAWN MOISTURE

Ensure that the treated leaves remain moist for a while after application. Therefore, do not treat in bright sunlight or strong winds.

Do you still see many caterpillars or new feeding damage after 1 to 2 weeks? Then a second treatment may be necessary.



WHY CATERPILLARS CAUSE DAMAGE

THEY ARE FEASTING THE LEAVES

Caterpillars feed on leaves, young shoots, and sometimes flower buds. This results in holes, ragged edges, or bare patches.

DAMAGE CAN HAPPEN QUICKLY

Young caterpillars often eat very little, but larger caterpillars can devour a lot of leaves in a short time.

THEY ARE OFTEN HIDING

Caterpillars are not always on top of the leaf. Also check the underside of leaves, young growing points, and rolled-up leaves.

NEW ADULT IS IMPORTANT

Old damage does not heal. Therefore, pay particular attention to new holes, fresh droppings, and caterpillars that are still actively feeding.



HOW DO NEMATODES WORK?

STEP 1: LOOKING FOR CATERpillARS

Nematodes move over the moist leaf and search for caterpillars on the plant.

STEP 2: PENETRATE AND DISABLE

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

STEP 3: FURTHER DISTRIBUTION

The nematodes can multiply inside the eliminated caterpillar. Afterwards, they continue searching for new caterpillars.

STEP 4: WHAT YOU NOTICE

The caterpillars stop eating and cause less new damage. Old feeding damage remains visible, but new feeding usually decreases within 1 to 2 weeks.



LIFE CYCLE OF THE CATERPILLAR

SPRING

Butterflies and moths lay their eggs on the leaves of suitable plants.

SPRING & SUMMER

The eggs hatch and young caterpillars immediately start eating.

This is often the best time to treat.

SUMMER

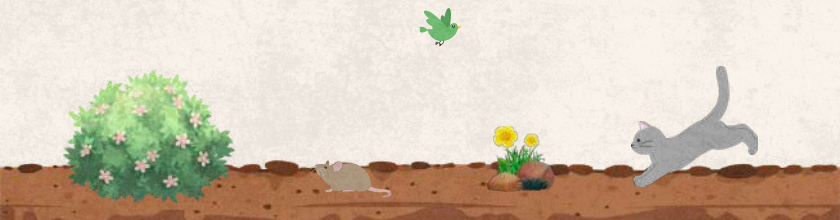
The caterpillars grow quickly and can cause extensive feeding damage in a short time.

PUPPY

After the larval stage, the caterpillars pupate into a butterfly or moth.

NEW GENERATION

Depending on the species, multiple generations of caterpillars can develop per year. Therefore, check plants regularly for new feeding damage.



PREVENT NEW CATERpillARS

CHECK YOUR PLANTS REGULARLY

Regularly check leaves for caterpillars, eggs, and fresh feeding damage. The sooner you intervene, the lower the risk of a major infestation.

REMOVE CATERpillARS AND EGGS

Do you see caterpillars or clusters of eggs? Remove them immediately by hand to limit further damage.

PRUNE SEVERELY AFFECTED PARTS

Cut away leaves or shoots with many caterpillars or feeding damage. This will prevent the infestation from spreading further.

KEEP CHECKING

Even after a successful treatment, new butterflies or moths can lay eggs again. Therefore, check your plants regularly during the growing season.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHEN WILL I SEE RESULTS?

You usually see a clear difference after 1 to 2 weeks. New feeding damage should decrease by then.

I STILL SEE CATERpillARS. IS THAT NORMAL?

That is possible in the event of a severe infestation. Not all caterpillars are hit at the same time, especially if they are well hidden.

SHOULD I ALSO TREAT THE BOTTOM OF THE SHEET?

Yes. Caterpillars are often found on the underside of leaves or between young shoots. Therefore, treat the entire plant thoroughly.

DO THE HOLES IN THE LEAF DISAPPEAR?

No. Existing feeding damage remains visible. Pay particular attention to whether fewer new holes, droppings, and active caterpillars are appearing.

