

## Beneficial Species Profile



**Photo credit:** Alton N. Sparks, Jr., University of Georgia, Bugwood.org; David Cappaert, Bugwood.org

**Common Name:** Green Lacewing

**Scientific Name:** *Chrysopa* spp. or *Chrysoperla* spp.

**Order and Family:** Neuroptera, Chrysopidae

**Size and Appearance:**

	Length (mm)	Appearance
<b>Egg</b>	0.5mm	Oval shaped; white or green in color; eggs laid on long thin silk stalks that are 6mm long; green when first laid but darken before hatching; laid in groups or singly.
<b>Larva/Nymph</b>	3-20mm	Yellow or gray colored body with brown or red markings; body is flat and elongated with large jaws; looks like mini alligator; some larvae cover themselves in plant debris.
<b>Adult</b>	15-20mm	Green, soft-bodied insects with copper-colored eyes, long thread-like antennae, and lacy clear wings; attracted to lights at night.
<b>Pupa (if applicable)</b>		Pupate in a white or yellow loosely woven, spherical, silken cocoon; green pupa with visible external features (legs, antennae); cocoon attached to stems or leaf underside.

**Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.):** Larvae and adults: Chewing

**Host/s:** Larvae will feed on aphids, mealybugs, psyllids, thrips, mites, whiteflies, small caterpillars, leafhoppers, and insect eggs. Adults will feed on pollen, honeydew, and nectar.

**Description of Benefits (predator, parasitoid, pollinator, etc.):** The Green lacewing is a generalist predator that feeds on a number of small insects, especially aphids. They are often found in gardens, yards, and agricultural areas. Some adult *Chrysopa* species are predatory.

## References:

- Bartlett, T. (2004, February). Family Chrysopidae – Green Lacewing. Retrieved from: <http://bugguide.net/node/view/140>
- Cranshaw, W. (2004). Chapter Eleven: Beneficial Garden Arthropods – Green Lacewings. In *Garden insects of North America: The ultimate guide to backyard bugs*. (pp. 548). Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Curtiss, R., Booth, S., (1993). Green Lacewings. Washington State University. Retrieved February 19, 2017 from: <http://jenny.tfrec.wsu.edu/opm/displaySpecies.php?pn=670>
- Green Lacewing. University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources: Integrated Pest Management. Retrieved from: [http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/NE/green\\_lacewing.html](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/NE/green_lacewing.html)