## **Release Instructions**



- Shipped as pre-fed adults and should be released as soon as possible.
- Release of 1 to 5 beetles is generally enough to colonize each scale-infested plant.
- Release 20 to 40 beetles per large scale-infested tree.
- Mist foliage just prior to release, releasing at sundown the day of receipt.
- Open the jar in the crop and gently tap out the beetles directly onto the foliage or evenly if there is widespread infestation.
- Release the bulk of the beetles near the moist heavily infested areas.
- For any that will not come out of the bottle, leave at the most heavily infested plants.
- Supplying these beetles with an artificial diet or with flowering, pollen-producing plants by the release site may increase their egg laying.

**Storage:** If not releasing immediately, keep in a cool (42-50°F) dark place out of direct sunlight. Do not refrigerate.

**Strategic Considerations:** Winter is an excellent time to release because ant activity is reduced to low nest temperature and interference to biological control organisms by ants at a low point. Red scale infestations on abandoned citrus is dramatically reduced by ladybug feeding throughout the winter. Such releases are cost effective because they insure the presence of these important biological control organisms.