

Palm Beach County Extension, 559 North Military Trail, West Palm Beach, FL 33415

How to Identify if you have Q-Biotype Silverleaf Whiteflies

For Professionals

Palm Beach Whitefly Task Force Website: <http://www.pbcgov.com/coextension/horticulture/whitefly>

Bill Schall, Commercial Horticulture Extension Agent

Telephone; 561.233.1725

Email: bschall@pbcgov.org

There are at least 65 species of whiteflies in Florida of the about 1,200 found worldwide. Not all are as difficult to control as the silverleaf (*Bemisia tabaci*) whitefly.

Instructions for Safely Submitting Silverleaf Whiteflies for Biotype Identification

- 1) Place leaves with at least 20 adult whiteflies in a rolled paper towel and then into a Ziploc style bag. See photo of leaf with adults on it.
- 2) After sealing the bag, place in another Ziploc style bag and seal.
- 3) Place overnight in your freezer. Do not ship live specimens!
- 4) Place the dead whitefly specimen containing Ziploc bags in a small protective box.
- 5) Include a report that includes your contact information including business name, date, collection location, and plant(s) collected on.
- 6) Mail box overnight to:

Cindy McKenzie, PhD
US Horticultural Research Laboratory, ARS-USDA
2001 South Rock Road
Fort Pierce, FL 34945
Telephone: 772.462.5917
Email: cindy.mckenzie@ars.usda.gov

Alternative Collection Method

- 1) Collect at least 20 adult whiteflies with an aspirator.
- 2) Place specimens in vial with a 90% solution of rubbing alcohol to kill them and protect for analysis.
- 3) Carefully pack the vial in a small protective box.
- 4) Include a report that has your contact information including business name, date, collection location, and plant(s) collected on
- 5) Mail box overnight to Dr. McKenzie as indicated above.