

Root Diseases/Pests

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Tip

Many plant pest larvae love potted plants as they prefer the relatively dry, free draining compost of house plants, which is easy to dig through.

Not all insects are pests (some can be harmless or even help by killing pests). Use *Plantarium* to get a close look and identify what is living with your house plant.

Symptoms

Root pests take many forms, e.g. fungus gnats (above left), vine weevils (above right), and root mealy bugs. They hide amongst the root system and may go unnoticed until the plant begins to wilt or is terminally damaged.

Action

Regular use of *Plantarium* allows identification of root pests as they appear. Contact us via www.plantarium.co.uk or visit your local garden centre to diagnose the pest and find a solution.

What about my house plants?

Mealy bugs attack a wide range of plants but have an affinity for **cacti, palms and ferns**, leaving milky deposits on the stem and leaves. Root mealy bugs also like to feed on the roots of these plants. They resemble small woodlice and may also appear on **Poinsettia, Fuchsias and Saintpaulia (African violets)**.

Watch for swollen bumps on the roots of your **Begonia** (root knot eelworm), or tunnels in the tubers (vine weevil). Vine weevils, a white legless grub (above right) also favour **Primula (primrose), Cyclamen and Pelargonium (geranium)**, and may be observable near the roots.

Adult fungus gnats may be harmless. However, they lay eggs in the compost of house plants producing maggots (above left), which devour young roots.

If you spot a root disease / pest then chemical solutions are available from garden centres to help treat your house plant.

Using Plantarium



Plantarium® is the revolutionary new transparent plant pot designed to support itself in your house plant container.

Simply lift *Plantarium* by its tabs to reveal the progress of your plant's root development and condition of its soil. Identify **symptoms** and take **action**. Replace *Plantarium* into a decorative outer pot where it sits unseen, ready for the next inspection.

Plantarium is available in a range of sizes to fit snugly into your pot.

Remove the guesswork and get to the root of the problem with **Plantarium**.

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House Plant Healthcheck

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