



## SEVEN-SPOTTED LADYBUG

*(Coccinella septempunctata)*

### INFORMATION

- LEGEND:** In medieval times, Europeans believed that Ladybugs were sent by the Virgin Mary to help farmers
- FOUND:** Native to parts of Western Europe, introduced to North America
- HABITAT:** Found in a variety of habitats such as suburbia, and farmland
- SIZE:** 7-8 mm small rounded body, with six legs
- BODY COLOUR:** Brightly coloured (red, yellow or orange) bodies with black spots which vary in number (2-22) The colours act as a deterrent to predators that they 'taste terrible'
- BEHAVIOUR:** If a Ladybug is attacked it rolls onto its back and squirts a smelly yellow liquid at its attacker as Ladybugs do not have ears, they feel vibrations with their feet  
Ladybugs cluster together during winter and go into a deep sleep called a 'hibernation'
- FOOD:** Insects called aphids, up to 50 per day
- THREATS:** Very common species  
Clusters of Ladybugs are collected during the winter months for farmers to assist in controlling aphids attacking their crops