

TRADESCANTIA

Tradescantia fluminensis
Commelinaceae



Leaf beetle damage in a cage

Two agents have been released to attack tradescantia so far. The tradescantia leaf beetle (*Neolema ogloblini*) damages the foliage and has been released widely in the past 2 years. Releases of the tradescantia stem beetle (*Lema basicostata*), which attacks the stems, are now underway. Releases of the tradescantia tip beetle (*Neolema abbreviata*), which attacks the growing tips, are expected to begin soon. The beetles cause extensive damage to tradescantia in their native range and it is hoped they can do the same here. Permission is being sought to release a yellow leaf spot fungus (*Kordyana* sp.) in case an additional agent proves necessary.