



## **Care of your Ladybugs and Praying Mantis**

### **LADYBUGS**

*Before you buy them, they are kept either refrigerated or in these containers and misted once everyday.*

***After you buy the ladybugs:***

*Still in the container- Two or three shots of a fine mist is good. You want to moisten the wood chips but not allow puddles at the bottom of the cups.*

*In the garden- First you need to water your garden and release them after sundown. (Ladybugs do not fly at night and if released during the day they will just fly away.) Shake them out of the box in groups and place them at the base of the plants with aphids or other pests ladybugs munch on.*

### **PRAYING MANTIS**

*Before you buy them, they are kept out of direct sunlight at room temperature or warmer.*

***After you buy the praying mantis:***

*In the garden- Place the egg cases in or near plants that have pest problems. If you have squirrels or birds that may eat the egg case, you can hang them according to the directions.*

*Observe then release- If you want to watch the praying mantis hatch, place the egg case in a bowl or terrarium and keep it in a warm area. Release immediately after they hatch since they will begin to attack each other.*

