Sucking pests

Aphids

Aphids use their piercing-sucking mouthparts to withdraw fluids from terminal growth and leaf undersides. This results in leaf curling or distortion. Aphids produce honeydew, a clear, sticky liquid. Aphids feeding on plants outdoors are susceptible to many beneficial insects (natural enemies), including parasitic wasps, ladybird beetles, green lace-wings and hover flies. Many species of aphids feed on a wide variety of herbaceous perennials.

Management: A hard water spray will quickly remove aphids from plants and minimally affect any beneficial insects. Avoid overfertilizing and overwatering plants. Remove weeds from...
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adjacent areas – many weeds serve as a reservoir for aphids. Contact and systemic insecticides may be effective in controlling aphids.

Aphids tend to feed on plants in large numbers.