

Organic Ways to Control Garden Pests

Help Good-Bug-Predators:

Wasp larvae feed on tomato hornworms.

Soldier beetles eat aphids and caterpillars.

Spiders hunt and eat many insects.

Ladybugs eat aphids, caterpillars, mealy bugs, scale, and thrips.

Provide water for bugs, away from your vegetable plants.



- **Plant a mix of herbs and flowers with your veggies.**
- **Plant a VARIETY of plants.**
(MULTIculture, not MONOculture)
- **Dispose of plant debris immediately, away from your plants.**

When those good habits aren't enough to protect your plants, certain homemade organic solutions will work for different kinds of pests.

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Spider Mites



Organic Pesticides that Help
(These don't climb the food chain)

Ants, Slugs, Roaches, Snails



Flies, Bees, Wasps



Squash Bugs



Ladybug, Leaf hopper



Hornworm, Earwig, Inchworm



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10 Homemade Organic Pesticides

Written by Dr. Edward Group Founder

Ever wonder what farmers did hundreds of years ago to fight off crop pests? Long before the invention of harmful [chemical pesticides](#) (yes, the kind that is linked to cancerous cellular activity), farmers and householders came up with multiple remedies for removing insect infestations from their garden plants.

The following list will offer some of our favorite, all-natural, inexpensive, organic methods for making bug-busting pesticides for your home garden.



1. Neem

Ancient Indians highly revered [neem oil](#) as a powerful, all-natural plant for warding off pests. Neem juice is even one the most powerful natural pesticides on the planet, holding over 50 natural insecticides. You can use this extremely bitter tree leaf to make a natural pesticidal spray.

To make neem oil spray, add half an ounce of high-quality organic neem oil and half a teaspoon of a mild organic liquid soap (I use Dr. Bronners Peppermint) to two quarts of warm water. Stir slowly. Add to a spray bottle and use immediately.

2. Salt Spray

For treating plants infested with spider mites, mix two tablespoons of [Himalayan Crystal Salt](#) into one gallon of warm water and spray on infected areas.

3. Mineral Oil

Mix 10-30 ml of high-grade oil with one liter of water. Stir and add to spray bottle. This organic pesticide works well for dehydrating insects and their eggs.

4. Citrus Oil & Cayenne Pepper

This organic pesticide works well on ants. Mix ten drops of citrus essential oil with one teaspoon cayenne pepper and 1 cup of warm water. Shake well and spray on the affected areas.

5. Soap, Orange Citrus Oil, & Water

To make this natural pesticide, simply mix three tablespoons of liquid Organic Castile soap with 1 ounce of Orange oil to one gallon of water. Shake well. This is an especially effective treatment against slugs and can be sprayed directly on ants and roaches.

6. Eucalyptus Oil

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A great natural pesticide for flies, bees, and wasps. Simply sprinkle a few drops of [eucalyptus oil](#) where the insects are found. They will all be gone before you know it.

7. Onion & Garlic Spray

Mince one organic clove of garlic and one medium-sized organic onion. Add to a quart of water. Wait one hour and then add one teaspoon of cayenne pepper and one tablespoon of liquid soap to the mix. This organic spray will hold its potency for one week if stored in the refrigerator.

8. Chrysanthemum Flower Tea

These flowers hold a powerful plant chemical component called pyrethrum. This substance invades the nervous system of insects, rendering them immobile. You can make your own spray by boiling 100 grams of dried flowers into 1 liter of water. Boil dried flowers in water for twenty minutes. Strain, cool, and pour into a spray bottle. Can be stored for up to two months. You can also add some organic neem oil to enhance the effectiveness.

9. Tobacco Spray

Just as tobacco is hazardous to humans, tobacco spray was once a commonly used pesticide for killing pests, caterpillars, and aphids. Mix one cup of organic tobacco (preferably a brand that is organic and all-natural) into one gallon of water. Allow the mixture to set overnight. After 24-hours, the mix should have a light brown color. If it is very dark, add more water. This mix can be used on most plants, except those in the solanaceous family (tomatoes, peppers, eggplants, etc.)

10. Chile Pepper & Diatomaceous Earth

Grind two handfuls of dry chiles into a fine powder and mix with one cup of diatomaceous earth. Add to two liters of water and let sit overnight. Shake well before applying.