

BLOOM BUDDY

Easy, Safe, Kitchen Remedies to Get a Handle on Garden Pests

Remedy	Pest	Process
• Clove oil	• Fungus	• Sprinkle on seedlings affected by damping-off disease in fungus that proliferates in the damp seedling environment and attacks and kills the young stems and roots.
• Garlic	• All insect pests	• Make a garlic plant spray by pouring two cups of garlic, four 12 cup boiling water over garlic, cover and steep overnight. Strain, put in a spray bottle. Spray the bottoms of leaves daily, every few days, or once per week.
• Orange and banana peels or ginger	• ants and aphids	• Orange peels contain di-limonene, which breaks down the waxy coating on ants and aphids and kills them. Cut up peels and bury one to two inches deep in soil. Alternatively, scatter peels around stems or hang from branches.
• Milk	• Mildew	• Mix with equal parts water and lettuce, and other plants to control mildew.
• Apple cider vinegar	• Aphids and fruit flies	• Put a small amount of apple cider vinegar in a jar next to plants. Aphids and fruit flies will be attracted, fall in, and drown.
• Hot peppers or ginger	• All insect pests (also deters rodents)	• Both contain capsaicin, which burns insects. Combine 1 quart of water, 1 quart of cayenne soap, and 1 tablespoon of cayenne pepper or ginger. Try on a small portion of plant first. Discontinue if it causes leaf damage.
• Baking soda	• Fungus	• Mix 2 tablespoons in a quart of water and put in a spray bottle. Spray plants every few days until the fungus is gone.
• Beer	• Snails and Slugs	• Put a little beer in a shallow container and place it in the garden. Slugs and snails crawl in, but can't crawl out.
• Castile soap	• Aphids, spider flies, white flies	• Mix 5 tablespoons soap with 1 gallon of water. Test on small portion. If the solution damages the foliage, dilute further.
• Eggshells	• Slugs, earworms, other insects	• Crush shells and sprinkle them on top of the soil around stems. Slugs, earworms, and other insects are repelled by the sharp edges.

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