



Natural pest remedies

Natural insecticides are better for the environment, your health and are also budget-friendly! Try the below natural pest remedies to repel aphids, white fly, ants and mites.

All-round insecticide

Chop four large onions, two cloves of garlic, and four hot chillies. Mix together, cover with warm, soapy water overnight. Strain liquid and dilute this liquid in five litres of water. Spray liquid mixture onto affected plants.

Chickens

Chickens are a great way to manage pests if you have the space and capacity to look after them. Let them roam around your garden beds to eat nearby bugs.

Diluted coffee

Add one-part espresso coffee (not instant) to ten parts of water. Spray this over the surface of leaves and soil where snails and slugs might crawl. Reapply after heavy rain.

Egg shells

Crush eggshells into small pieces and sprinkle them on top of the soil. Slugs and snails will be put off by the sharp edges of the shells.

Horticultural oil*

Add two cups of white oil (vegetable, canola or sunflower) and one cup of dishwashing detergent in a jar. Shake until the mixture turns a milky colour. Add one-to-two tablespoons of this concentrate to one litre of water. Spray onto affected plants.

Herbs and essential oils*

Fill a spray bottle with water and add 10-15 drops of peppermint or clove essential oil. You can also try planting herbs like peppermint, thyme and sage in between plant foliage.

** Do not apply when the temperature is 30°C or over as it may burn your plants.*

Developed with expertise from Sonia Nuttman (Food Systems Researcher, Deakin University)

For more information, head to www.foodfromhome.org

