

Natural Pest Remedies

Natural insecticides are better for the environment, your health and are also super budget-friendly!

Treatments are made to repel aphids, white fly, ants and mites unless otherwise stated.

- **All-round insecticide**

Chop four large onions, two cloves of garlic, and four hot chillies. Mix together, cover with warm, soapy water overnight. Strain off liquid and add this liquid to five litres of water. Spray 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 the garden beds, they love eating all the bugs. But be careful as they also eat your veggies!

- **Diluted coffee**

Add one-part espresso coffee (not instant) to ten parts water. Spray over 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 2 cups of white oil (vegetable, canola or sunflower) + 1 cup of dishwashing detergent in a jar. Shake until mixture turns a milky colour. Add 1-2 tablespoons of this concentrate to a litre of water. Spray onto affected plants.

- **Herbs and essential oils***

Simply 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.

*** Please 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 growing resources, head to:
www.foodfromhome.org/resources/

