



Managing Pests Organically

Sap sucking insects include aphids, mealy bugs, lerps, scales, mites and thrips.

Chewing insects include caterpillars, leaf eating ladybirds, grasshoppers and beetles.

Fungus includes powdery or downy mildew, blight, rot, leaf spot, scab, rust, sooty mould or damping off.

Control

Garlic Spray - controls both sucking and chewing insects. Recipe: chop up 4 hot chillies, 4 large onions and 2 cloves of garlic. Cover with warm soapy water (sunlight soap) not detergent. Leave for 24 hours and strain. Add five litres of water and keep in a sealed marked container in the fridge.

White Oil - is useful for controlling all types of sucking insects. Recipe: Put a cap of cooking oil in the blender, add one and a half cups of water and a teaspoon of sunlight soap and blend. Store in a marked, tightly sealed jar.

Potassium Soap - controls chewing and sucking insects. Can be bought from most garden centres.

Neem Oil - controls sap sucking insects. This can be bought from most good garden centres.

Paw Paw Leaves - can be used as an insecticide and fungicide. Add a kilo of finely chopped leaves to a litre of water, leave to soak overnight. Filter. Add four litres of water, two teaspoons of paraffin and a little soap.