



COMMON GARDEN PESTS

What to Look For & How to Treat Them

🌿 Healthy garden. Happy harvest! 🌿



PEST	WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE	WHAT TO LOOK FOR	HOW TO TREAT THEM	BEST PREVENTION
APHIDS (Plant Lice) 	Tiny green, black, brown or yellow soft-bodied insects clustered on new growth and stems. 	• Curled or distorted leaves • Sticky residue (honeydew) • Sooty mold on leaves • Infested buds and stems 	• Spray with insecticidal soap or neem oil • Blast off with strong water spray • Encourage ladybugs 	• Attract beneficial insects • Don't over-fertilize • Inspect plants regularly 
JAPANESE BEETLES 	Metallic green beetles about 1/2 inch long. 	• Skeletonized leaves • Holes in flowers and fruit • Damage most common on roses, beans, grapes, and corn 	• Handpick adults • Use neem oil or milky spore (for grubs) • Use traps away from the garden 	• Healthy soil & plants • Row covers for seedlings • Remove weeds where beetles hide 
CATERPILLARS 	Larvae of moths and butterflies; vary in color and size. 	• Chewed or ragged leaves • Holes in vegetables • Small black droppings on leaves 	• Handpick caterpillars • Spray Bt (Bacillus thuringiensis) • Use row covers 	• Use row covers • Encourage birds • Plant dill, fennel, and parsley 
SPIDER MITES 	Very tiny (pinpoint size), red, yellow or brown mites. 	• Yellow or speckled leaves • Fine webbing on undersides of leaves • Dry, dusty-looking plants 	• Spray with insecticidal soap or neem oil • Increase humidity • Hose off leaves 	• Keep plants well-watered • Avoid dusty conditions • Inspect undersides of leaves 
SLUGS & SNAILS 	Soft-bodied, mollusks with shells (snails) or without (slugs). 	• Irregular holes in leaves • Shiny slime trails • Damage worst at night or after rain 	• Handpick at night • Use beer traps • Apply diatomaceous earth or iron phosphate 	• Remove debris & weeds • Use copper tape • Keep soil and plants healthy 
WHITEFLIES 	Tiny white, moth-like insects that fly up when plants are disturbed. 	• Yellowing leaves • Sticky honeydew • Sooty mold • Found on undersides of leaves 	• Yellow sticky traps • Spray insecticidal soap or neem oil • Remove heavily infested leaves 	• Use row covers • Remove weeds • Keep plants healthy & well-spaced 

GENERAL PREVENTION TIPS



Inspect plants regularly



Encourage beneficial insects & pollinators



Water properly & keep plants healthy



Use compost & rich healthy soil



Keep garden clean—remove debris & weeds



Give plants room to grow

REMEMBER:

Healthy plants are more resistant to pests! A little attention today prevents big problems tomorrow.



🌿 **OBSERVE. ACT EARLY. KEEP YOUR GARDEN THRIVING!** 🌿