

Pests & diseases

Prevent and control problems using simple organic methods

Golden rules

- Grow strong plants resilient to attack
- Inspect plants often for problems
- Grow crops in different places every year
- Prevention is better than cure

Attract natural predators to eat pests, eg ladybirds eat lots of aphids

Stop butterflies laying eggs by covering plants with netting. Pick off caterpillars, eg from 'cabbage white butterfly'

Grow varieties resistant to problems such as aphids and fungal diseases

Provide habitats to attract beneficial wildlife, eg log piles, long grass, ponds and flowering plants

Avoid spreading problems by cleaning tools, pots and greenhouse. Remove infected growth

Protect plants from slugs with barriers of sharp grit or try organic slug pellets based on 'ferric phosphate' (these are safe to wildlife and pets)

Illustrations: Verity Thompson

Food Growing Manual



Further information

Booklets: Bronze, Silver and Gold

'Pests - How to Control them on Fruit and Vegetables' by Pauline Pears and Bob Sherman. ISBN 1844481565

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