

Companion Planting & Natural Insect Control

With the Environmental Protection Agency's efforts to increase public awareness of preserving our environment in a clean and natural state, people are looking for alternatives for pesticides. The insect controlling abilities of marigolds are now widely used. A root exudate has been used by scientists to repel and kill certain nematodes that cause root knots that deform and stunt many herbaceous and woody plants. Marigolds also serve to repel slugs, and thus can be planted effectively in abundance among susceptible vegetables.

Herbs with strong aromas such as rosemary, sage, basil, garlic, and chives confuse insects' sensory organs and drive them away. The following is a list of various plants and companions to assist you with your organic gardening:

PLANT	COMPANIONS
Asparagus	Tomatoes, parsley, basil
Beans	Potatoes, carrots, corn, cauliflower, cabbage, celery, cucumbers; most vegetables and herbs
Basil	Interplant with tomatoes to deter tomato hornworm
Cabbage Family Cauliflower, Broccoli, Brussel Sprouts	Potatoes, celery, dill, sage, chamomile, thyme, mint, beets, rosemary, lavender, onions; aromatic plants deter cabbage worm
Carrots	Peas, lettuce, leeks, rosemary, sage, tomatoes, chives; onions repel rust fly and nematodes
Catnip	Plant in borders and near eggplant; protects against flea beetle
Chamomile	Cabbage, onions
Chives	Carrots; at base of fruit trees to discourage climbing insects; interplant with roses to deter aphids
Corn	Potatoes, peas, beans, squash, cucumbers, pumpkin
Cucumbers	Beans, corn, peas, radishes, sunflowers
Dill	Cabbage (improves growth and health), carrots
Eggplant	Beans

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