

family
**Vegetable
Garden**
series

EXTENSION BULLETIN E-824 (3)

Controlling **Pests**

BUGS

WEEDS

DISEASES

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PESTICIDES - WHAT ARE THEY?

Pesticides is a general term for chemicals used to control pests - insects (bugs), diseases, weeds, rodents, etc.



Pesticides include:

INSECTICIDES

chemicals used to kill damaging or annoying insects.

FUNGICIDES

chemicals that prevent or control disease organisms (fungi).

HERBICIDES

chemicals used to kill unwanted plants (weeds).

COMMON PESTICIDES used in home gardens:

Insecticides: diazinon, sevin and malathion.

Fungicides: maneb, bravo, captan, and tribasic copper sulfate.



For specific information, see Extension Bulletin E-760(b), "Home Vegetable Garden Disease and Insect Control".

Herbicides are generally not recommended for the small home garden. There is no one herbicide that can be used on all the different vegetables. (See the section on mulching in No. 4 in this series: Keep 'em Growing.)

Before buying pesticides — follow these
TIPS TO REDUCE INSECT AND DISEASE DAMAGE



Plant garden in fertile, well-drained soil. Healthy plants resist insect and disease attack better.

Plant crops suited to your soil and climate.

Control weeds and grass in the garden. Insects and disease hide in them.



Buy seed from reliable suppliers to avoid disease.

Buy treated seed to protect against rot and insects. Or treat your own seed with chemicals available at garden supply centers.

THIS



Buy healthy plants, free from injury, disease and insects.



NOT THIS

Grow disease-resistant varieties. Extension Bulletin E-760(a) lists these varieties.

Stay out of garden when plants are wet to avoid spreading disease.

After harvest, destroy diseased or insect-infested plants.



READ THE LABEL

When buying or using a pesticide, read the label to find out —

- What the product does
- What pests it controls
- What crops it can be used on
- How and when to apply it
- the ingredients
- the dosage or rate
- precautions
- other information

SAMPLE LABEL

The most important few minutes in pest control is the time you take to **READ THE LABEL!**

IF YOU NEED TO USE A PESTICIDE - CAUTION!

Always read the label before buying or using pesticides.



Do not apply more than the specified amount.

Keep them away from food or dishes.

Wash hands with soap and water after use. Wearing gloves is a good idea.



Do not smoke or eat while using pesticides. Don't breathe fumes or dust.

Keep children and pets away from pesticides and treated areas.



If you spill a pesticide on your skin or clothing, wash with soap and water and change clothes right away.

Store pesticides in the original container.

Dispose of empty containers safely! Wrap in newspaper, tie well, and put in covered trash can. Never burn pesticide containers.



In case of poisoning call your local poison treatment center (open 24 hours). It is usually listed with the emergency numbers in your phone book.

INSECTICIDE

For aphid control on: beans, corn, tomatoes. Apply with compressed-air sprayer at one tsp per gallon of water.

Spray when insects are first seen—re-apply in 10 days if problem still exists.

CAUTION: Do not use within 7 days before harvesting. Keep out of reach of children.

Ingredients: Malathion

THE KEY TO CONTROL - IDENTIFICATION

1. Identify the pest causing the damage.
(See County Extension Agent or Extension Bulletin E-760(b))
2. Get pesticide that lists on the label the specific pest and specific crop it will be used on.
3. Apply correct amount right where pests are feeding.
4. Always read and follow all label directions.



EQUIPMENT TO USE



← Compressed air sprayer - knapsack type for garden.

Slide and bucket pump sprayer - for fruit and ornamentals.

Household intermittent sprayer - fly-sprayer, etc.

← Plunger duster - for garden and flowers.

Garden hose sprayer - for lawn and ornamentals.

Aerosols - for home and outdoors.



TERMS and ABBREVIATIONS

WP = Wettable Powder

EC = Emulsifiable Concentrate
(liquid)

Tsp. = Teaspoon

Tbs. = Tablespoon

Sa. Ft. = Square Feet

(length times width)

1 Acre = 43,560 sa. ft.

LIQUID MEASURES

3 teaspoons = 1 tablespoon

2 tbs. = 1 fluid ounce

8 fluid ounces = 1 cup

2 cups = 1 pint

2 pints = 1 quart

4 quarts = 1 gallon



KEYS

TO

SUCCESS

• Always read label on pesticide.

• Buy pesticide for your crop and pest.

• BE CAREFUL!

Other bulletins in this series provide additional information on vegetable gardening

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