



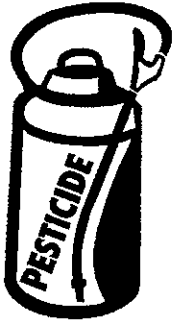
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Pesticide: Friend or Foe?

We use Pesticides when we want to eradicate insects, weeds and diseases on our plants. Pesticides can be very valuable tools for pest control, but they need to be used properly!

What is a Pesticide? – A pesticide is any chemical (natural, organic or synthetic) used to control, prevent, kill, suppress or repel pests. "Pesticide" is a broad term that includes insecticides (insect control), herbicides (weed control), fungicides (disease control), and miticides (mite control). Most pests cannot be entirely eliminated, even with pesticides, so a combination of measures will provide the most satisfactory and long-term pest control.

Choosing the right pesticide – The first step to choosing a pesticide is identifying the troublemaker. If you do not have confidence to do this yourself, bring in a sample of the problem to either store for us to help you identify it or take it to your local cooperative extension office. If a pesticide is needed, carefully read product labels and select one that is labeled to control your pest and specific site. For instance, not all pesticides labeled for use on ornamental plants can be used on edible plants, nor can "outdoor use only" products be used indoors. And remember, many pesticides control only certain stages of a pest's life cycle. Some insecticides kill only the caterpillar stage, whereas others may only affect adults. Many fungicides are preventative and will not help plants already infected. Likewise, pre-emergence herbicides, such as crabgrass preventers, kill germinating weeds, but not established ones, while post-emergence herbicides, such as Round-Up (Glyphosate) and 2,4-D are only effective on actively growing weeds.

First Read the Label – Read and understand all labeling before using any pesticide. Always keep the product in the original package so you have the correct information. Some of the information on the label includes: *Active ingredients, *Pests controlled, *How much to use and how to apply, *How and when to apply, *Required protective clothing such as gloves, and more.

Preparation of Spraying Solutions – Proper measuring of concentrated pesticides are essential for effectiveness and user safety. The application rate of most liquid products is expressed as a ration of fluid ounces of concentrate per gallon of spray solution. Never use a higher dose than directed by the label. You will not see better results and you will be wasting pesticide, time and money while potentially causing plant injury.

How and When to Apply - When applying pesticides, avoid windy conditions as pesticides can drift and do damage beyond the area you are trying to treat. Check the weather report for rain and check the product bottle to see how long it takes to become rain-proof so you are not wasting time and money by it being washed off by rain. Also check the directions for the best temperatures for spraying. Pesticides sprayed when the temperatures are too high cause **pesticide volatilization**, which is the movement of pesticide vapors through the air that can detrimentally affect nearby plants. The best time to use a pesticide is when the soil is moderately dry and no rain is expected, and on a cloudy day when temperatures are moderate.

Effects of Glyphosate and 2,4-D on Vegetables

Glyphosate (Round-Up) and a combination of 2,4-D and dicamba are common, and very effective herbicides used by commercial growers and homeowners. They are systemic herbicides that only work with contact on the leaves of weed and does not work in the soil. But they are not without some worrisome issues.

Depending on the application, it may spread to non-target plants, such as your vegetables. These herbicides are also at the mercy of the weather conditions at time of application. The liquid forms are prone to drift if wind is present. Temperature is also a factor. On days when temperature is high, liquid application may vaporize as a gas (**pesticide volatilization**) and drift to other plants and cause damage. And never use grass clippings that have been treated with these herbicides as mulch around plants. The herbicide will still be on the grass blades, vaporize in the heat & thus affect your desirable plants.

Tomatoes, potatoes, peppers and grapes are particularly sensitive to these herbicides. When these plants have been exposed to these herbicides you may notice changes in the leaves such as cupped, twisted, or changes in color patterns. Tomatoes may have small light-colored bumps on the stems. The affected plants may not die, but their productivity could be seriously compromised. If you suspect herbicide drift, assess surrounding plants. Drift would most likely affect all the plants in an area, whereas other types of problems would not necessarily do so. Try to eliminate as many factors as possible before concluding it was herbicide induced.

Will your plants recover? The definitive answer is "maybe". Most of the damage will appear within a few days of the herbicide application. Young plants damaged early in the growing season will likely suffer more injury. Eating the fruit of affected plants is not recommended. As with any harmful substance, limit your exposure and remove any of the substance on your skin &

Always Read & Follow Label Directions Carefully!



What's Bugging You?

By Laurie

BETLES, BAGWORMS & DISEASES, OH, MY!

Japanese Beetles have emerged! There are many options to control these bugs as they are easy to kill! Monitor your plants and hand pick the early ones as you see them. There are also many insecticidal sprays that work well. We carry

Eight
Insect Control

Bonide Eight and Bonide Beetle Killer. Or for a more organic approach use **Bonide Captain Jack's Dead Bug Brew.** You can also use **Bonide Beetle Bagger Traps** but be sure that you place them as far away from your prize plants as possible since the traps will attract the Beetles to them. If you have a plant that seems to attract Beetles every year, use **Bonide Systemic Insect** spray which stays in the plant's system.



Since Japanese Beetles live 9 to 10 months of the year underground as grubs, you can apply a granular product, such as **Bonide Grub Beater** in early August. This controls the population for the next season.

BAGWORMS – This worm is found mainly on evergreen trees but can also be found on deciduous trees and shrubs. Since they tend to look like pinecones, they are sometimes overlooked. Check trees and evergreens during the year. If you find a bag, pick it off and destroy it. If they are too high to reach, you need to spray to protect the tree. Start to spray in late June to mid-July when the Bagworms are still small. Use sprays such as **Bonide Bt** or **Captain Jack's Deadbug Brew.** After the bags are bigger they are harder to kill. The best solution is to use **Bonide Systemic Insect** spray which



stays in the system of the plant.

Diseases are usually caused by too much moisture, too cool at night or spores spread through wind and water. Powdery and Downy Mildew are usually weather related. Early Blight comes from spores in the soil left over in debris from the previous year. Late Blight spores are airborne. It is easier to prevent these diseases than to cure them. Water your plants during the morning to allow the leaves to dry. If you can only water at night, water at the base of the plants only, not the foliage. **Bonide Fung-onil, Mancozeb** and **Copper Fungicide** are all great products for these diseases.

Blossom End Rot on Tomatoes - Black sunken areas on the bottom of your first tomatoes and peppers is caused by irregular watering and lack of calcium. When possible, let soil dry out slightly before watering. Add more calcium to your soil with **Gypsum.** This also helps break up clay soil allowing better drainage. You can also add **Calcium Nitrate** to the soil or spray with **Bonide Rot-Stop.**



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

There are no happier folks
than plant lovers and none
more generous than those
who garden.

ERNEST "CHINESE" WILSON

Garden To Do List

July



Garden:

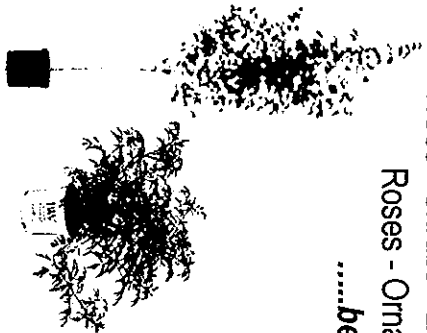
- ☞ Hand pick tomato horn worms unless you see one covered in tiny, upright eggs. These are cocoons of the braconid wasp, a predator of the tomato horn worm.
 - ☞ Make sure potatoes, carrots and onions are covered with soil to prevent development of green color.
 - ☞ Plant seeds for succession crops such as lettuce, radish, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, summer squash, carrots, beets, spinach, bush beans and cilantro.
 - ☞ Keep those weeds pulled – especially those spread by reseeding – and you'll have less work next year.
 - ☞ Check your garden at least once a week for pests and apply controls as needed. If you don't know what you are dealing with, bring us a sample for identification.
 - ☞ Start to plan your fall garden by checking seed packages to make sure plants will have enough time to mature before the 1st autumn freeze, approx. mid Oct.
- #### Perennials & Annuals
- ☞ Pinch mums down to 4" on July 1st & no later than July 15th for maximum fall blooms. Fertilize with a 10-10-10
 - ☞ Pinch back and fertilize many of your perennials to promote a 2nd or 3rd bloom.
 - ☞ Apply systemic Bayer All-in-One Rose & Flower Care to roses to control insects, diseases & to fertilize - all in one product. Follow directions for rate of application.
 - ☞ Watch container plants as most need water every day in July. Fertilize 2-3 times per week to promote blooms. We recommend Jack's All-Purpose or Blossom Booster.
 - ☞ As annuals fade, cut back by 1/3 to promote blooms.
 - ☞ For an organic control of slugs and snails on hostas use diatomaceous earth.
 - ☞ Hang up Japanese beetle traps away from the garden.
- #### Landscape
- ☞ Yes, you can plant in July but keep your new plants watered – 1" per week! Water deep and thoroughly.
 - ☞ Be careful when using string trimmer around trees. Nicks and cuts expose trees to infection and insects.
 - ☞ Mulch plants during hot weather to conserve moisture.
 - ☞ Provide clean water for birds and butterflies. Keep hummingbird feeders clean and food fresh.
- #### Lawn
- ☞ Mow at 2 1/2 - 3" to help shade soil & grass crowns.
 - ☞ To keep your lawn green, it must receive 1" of moisture per week. If you let it go dormant, a light watering of 1/2" every 2-3 weeks is recommended.

Unlike box stores, we continue to get new stock

& fresh shipments all summer of...

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Roses - Ornamental Grasses

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Combo Planters
& MORE!

Misc. Lawn & Garden, Pond and Christmas Items,
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PLUS these items you may not know about.....**

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