

Flowers to Repel Insects.

SUNFLOWERS: Peredovik

Plant nearby to attract Shield Bugs, Leaf Footed Bugs and Stink Bugs away from your garden. The flowers are most attractive to insects when they die back, so plant in succession. The mature heads, when they start to droop and produce seeds, are most attractive to these bugs, while the young heads attract bees. If you sow sunflower seeds every few weeks, you will always have flowers in various stages of growth to attract insects away from your garden, and keep the bees happy.

BORAGE:

Plant among tomatoes to repel tomato hornworm, cabbage moth.

It's a notorious self-seeder, so if you don't want borage plants throughout your garden, you should pull the plants before they seed, and have some new plants to replace them. An added bonus of borage is that it tastes like cucumber, and in England it is traditionally used to decorate a glass of Pimm's, a gin-based cocktail which is synonymous with summer.

NASTURTIUM:

Repels cucumber beetle, squash bugs. Anyone who tries to grow squash, melons, cucumbers or zucchini knows what a pain squash bugs are, and nasturtiums are repulsive to them. I plant them in among my squash and cucumber plants and they do a pretty good job of keeping the squash bugs away. I also wrap the stems of the plants, next to the ground, in aluminum foil to stop

the squash vine borer moths from laying their eggs on the plants. One thing you don't want to do is plant NASTURTIUMS near brassicas as they will attract aphids and cabbage white butterflies to them.

PYRETHIUM DAISY (PAINTED DAISY) TANACETUM COCCINEUM:

This is the same plant from which pyrethrum, a powerful insecticide, is extracted, but the plants themselves are not harmful to pollinators and beneficial insects. You have to dry and crush the dead flowerhead to extract pyrethrum, so plants themselves not harmful to pollinators. They will repel a host of garden pests, such as nematodes, leaf hoppers, ticks, harlequin bugs and spider mites. The daisies themselves are susceptible to aphids if you plant them too early, but later in the season when there are more predatory bugs around, they do a lot better.

CUCUMBER:

Burpless varieties do not produce CUCURBUTACIN , which attracts CUCUMBER BEETLES. Examples of burpless cucumbers are China Jade, Beat Alpha and Jojirushi.

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