

## Common Pests and Diseases

Plant	Pest/Disease	Damage	Control
Bean	Bean Fly	Eggs laid on leaves. Larvae tunnel into stem causing it to crack and collapse near ground level.	Remove damaged leaves and hill soil around stem to encourage new root growth above damaged area
Beetroot and silver beet	Leaf spots	Typical in wet weather, but the damage is largely cosmetic	Remove and destroy worst affected growth and feed plants fortnightly with liquid fertiliser to encourage new growth
Cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower	Cabbage white butterfly	Adult white butterfly lay eggs on leaves. Larvae chew leaves and developing flower head.	Spray with molasses spray or commercial organic sprays such as Dipel and Spinosad
Cucumber, pumpkin, zucchini, squash, melons	Leaf eating ladybird	Adults and larvae feed on upper and lower surface of the leaves. Adult is orange/yellow with 26-28 spots. Do not confuse it with the common aphid eating ladybird that has 18 spots	Pick off and destroy as soon as they appear or spray with natural pyrethrum
	Powdery mildew	A debilitating fungal disease - starts as faint white spots on the leaves and spreads to the whole leaf	Remove and destroy worst damage and spray with milk spray, bicarb spray or wettable sulphur
Tomato and Capsicum	Sunscald	Typical in very hot weather – fruit exposed to sun are burnt and develop sunken patches	Shade plants in hot weather with shade cloth draped over a frame
	Blossom end rot	Sunken area at the end of fruit, often turns black	Keep soil regularly moist and add some lime or gypsum to the soil to increase calcium
	Budworms	Eggs laid on developing flowers. Larvae feed inside fruit causing it to rot. Common in spring.	Spray or dust leaves and flowers with an organic product based on Spinosad. Reapply after rain.
	Fruit Fly	Eggs laid in fruit. Larvae feed within fruit causing rot	Exclude pest by netting plants or bagging individual fruit. Spray with organic fruit fly pesticides.
	Blights	Disease that causes yellowing and spotting of leaves and sometimes fruit	Remove and destroy affected plant parts. Spray remaining foliage and fruit with a copper fungicide.
Potato	Leaf eating ladybird	See above	See above
Sweet corn	Corn earworms	Eggs are laid on leaves and silks. Larvae enter developing cobs from the top and feed on kernels	Squeeze tops of developing cobs regularly to squash larvae or spray leaves and silks early with an organic spray based on Spinosad.