

Plant for pest management

GET PEST TIPS FOR PLANTING

Researchers Rick Peters, Julia Mlynarek, Sébastien Villeneuve and the Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu Research and Development Centre at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada have been helping farmers prevail over pests for decades. They recommend planting with pest management in mind for fewer problems and more produce.

Researchers



RICK PETERS

JULIA MLYNAREK

SÉBASTIEN VILLENEUVE

What is late blight?

- A. An aquatic mould that targets tomato and potato plants.
- B. It damages plants and causes inedible produce with dead flesh, poor flavour, and bad texture.

Tip! Plant blight-resistant tomato varieties, available at seed and garden centres.



Bonus! This reduces blight spores from travelling through the air to your neighbours' gardens and commercial farms!

What is grey mould?

- A. A fungus that causes strawberries to grow grey fuzz.
- B. It damages plants and fruit during the growing season and after harvest.

Tip! Plant strawberries under plastic sheeting with mulch (not straw) between rows and a plastic tent over the plot for the best harvest.



Bonus! Strawberries last longer in the fridge, grow in greater quantity, ripen faster, and have increased antioxidants.



Crowd out weeds!

In some Indigenous communities, squash, corn, and beans are called the "Three Sisters."

Tip! Planted together, they reduce the space for weeds. Low growing plants like squash, provide shade, help soil stay moist, and stop weeds.

Bonus! Plant white corn and prepare it with "nixtamalization", an ancient Indigenous way of soaking and cooking in a limewater solution, increasing its nutritional value.

How do I beat Japanese beetles?



- A. Japanese beetles eat foliage, preventing plants from using the sun to make their food.
- B. They target roses, blueberries, and fruit trees.

Tip! Place pheromone traps, available at garden centres, far from plants, to lure beetles. Empty traps twice a day for best trapping conditions.

Bonus! Plant herbs! Dill, coriander, and similar herbs attract tachinid flies, some of which are predators of the Japanese beetle.

