

Companion Planting

Companion Planting

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What is Companion Planting?

Companion planting is the practical use of plants that assist each other to grow well, repel insects, and even repel other plants.

Why Practice Companion Planting?

Provides protection from pests;
alleviates situations leading to disease;
improves plant growth;
gives plants a fuller flavor;
helps protect from predatory animals;
eliminates the use of harmful pesticides
and insecticides

Vegetables

Vegetable	Likes	Dislikes/Notes
Asparagus	Parsley, basil, tomatoes	Tomatoes protect against asparagus beetles
Bean (bush)	Carrots, marigold, corn, celery, cucumbers, strawberry	Onion family, gladiolus, fennel
Bean (pole)	Corn, summer savory, radish	Sunflower, kohlrabi, fennel, beets
Broccoli, Cabbage, Cauliflower	Dill, celery, sage, peppermint, rosemary, thyme, potatoes, beets, onions, hyssop	Tomatoes, pole beans, strawberry
Carrot	Onion, leeks, rosemary, chives, sage	Dill; store apples & carrots separately
Celery	Leeks, tomatoes, cauliflower, cabbage, bush beans	
Corn	Potatoes, peas, beans, cucumber, pumpkin, squash, marigold	Tomato

Vegetables

Vegetable	Likes	Dislikes/Notes
Cucumbers	Corn, beans, peas, radishes, sunflowers	Potatoes, aromatic herbs
Lettuce	Green onions, strawberries, cucumbers, carrots, radishes	
Melon	Corn, sunflowers	Potatoes
Onions	Cabbage family, strawberries, tomatoes, lettuce, dill	Peas, beans
Parsley	Carrots, tomatoes, asparagus	
Peas	Carrots, turnips, radishes, cucumbers, corn, beans, potatoes, aromatic herbs	Onions, garlic and gladiolus
Peppers (sweet)	Basil, okra	

Vegetables

Vegetable	Likes	Dislikes/Notes
Potatoes	Cabbage family, corn, peas	Tomatoes, pumpkins, melons, cucumbers
Pumpkin	Corn	Potatoes
Radishes	Nasturium, mustard, beets, spinach, carrots, parsnips, cucumbers, squash, melons, tomatoes, bush & pole beans	Hyssop
Spinach	Strawberries	
Squash	Radishes, nasturtiums	
Sweet potatoes	White hellebore	
Tomatoes	Chives, onions, parsley, marigold, nasturtium, carrots, garlic	Cabbage family, potatoes, fennel, corn
Watermelons	Potatoes	Don't grow with tall vegetables; needs sun

Herbs

Herb	How it can help
Basil	Helps tomatoes overcome insects and disease; improves growth and flavor
Bee balm *	Improves the growth and flavor of tomatoes
Catnip *	Contains insect-repellent oil
Chive	Improves growth and flavor to carrots; chive tea spray helps prevent apple scab and powdery mildew on cucumbers
Coriander	Helps repel aphids
Dill	Improves growth and health to cabbage; lightly sow with lettuce, onions and cucumbers
Fennel	Most plants dislike fennel; plant away from vegetable garden; inhibited by presence of coriander and wormwood.
Garlic	Effective for many insects; effective destroyer of diseases that damage stone fruits, cucumbers, radishes, spinach, beans, nuts and tomatoes; garlic oil kills mosquito larvae; stored in grain reduces weevils; grown around fruit trees against borers; protective to roses; fights red spiders.

*known to be deer resistant

Herbs

Herb	How it can help
Hyssop	Increases yield to grapevines; lures cabbage butterflies from cabbage; attracts bees
Lavender*	Repels ticks; mouse repellent; repels moths
Marjoram	Improves growth and flavor to nearby plants
Mint*	Improves growth and flavor to tomatoes and cabbage; useful against black flea beetles; dried leaves repel rats & mice; repels ants
Peppermint	Effective against aphids; drives red ants from shrubs; repels white cabbage butterfly
Rue	Deters Japanese beetle when planted near roses and raspberries. Cats do not like rue. <i>Rue doesn't like basil. Foliage can cause itching & dermatitis.</i>
Sage	Protective to cabbages & improves flavor; protects against the carrot fly; beneficial with rosemary. <i>Do not plant with cucumber.</i>
Thyme	Deters cabbageworm; good planted anywhere in garden

*known to be deer resistant

Insect Control

Pest	Plants that help deter pests
Ants	Peppermint, spearmint, tansy, cucumber (planted in thin strips)
Aphids	Coriander, garlic, nasturtium, spearmint
Beetles	Garlic, nasturtium, petunia, marigold, rosemary, summer savory, tansy, wormwood
Cabbage moths	Hyssop, mint, peppermint, rosemary, sage, wormwood
Cabbageworms	Thyme
Flea beetles	Catnip, wormwood
Flies	Basil, rosemary, sage, tansy
Japanese beetles	Garlic, rue, tansy, white geranium
Mosquitoes	Basil, citronella, lemon grass, rosemary, southernwood
Plant lice	Castor bean, sassafrass
Potato bugs/beetles	Dead nettle, flax, horseradish (plant at corners)
Squash bugs	Nasturtium, tansy
Ticks	Sage
Tomato worms	Borage, marigold

Suggested Reading

Carrots Love Tomatoes

Louise Riotte

Roses Love Garlic

Louise Riotte