

Till or hand-turn the soil well in advance of planting to discourage soil insects.

Use soil solarization to reduce nematodes (microscopic worms that attack vegetable roots and reduce growth and yield).

Add organic matter to the soil to help reduce nematode populations.

Identify beneficial insects such as praying mantis, spiders, big-eyed bugs, assassin bugs, lady bugs, and all wasps.

Plant flowers in the vegetable garden.  
Rotate vegetables so that the same vegetables are not planted repeatedly in the same areas.

Choose adapted varieties with resistance or tolerance to nematodes and common diseases.

## PREP WORK

## PLANTING

## MAINTENANCE



Remove unproductive plants and compost or dispose of them.



Watch for early disease symptoms. Remove any diseased leaves or plants to slow spread.



Monitor or scout the garden twice weekly for pest problems.



Control weeds in and around the garden because they can be a source of insects and diseases.

Remove large insects by hand.



Do not panic and start spraying at the first sign of insect damage.



Harvest ripe crops promptly.



Keep plants growing vigorously and in a state of good health by supplying appropriate amounts of water and fertilizer.



# NO-PESTICIDE GARDENING

For more information, please visit <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/vh021>

Protect plants from cutworms by placing a collar around the plant. The collar can be made from a bottomless plastic cup or a waxed cardboard carton and should extend a few inches above and at least an inch below the surface of the ground.

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