

## Attracting Beneficial Insects

Plant annuals amongst your vegetable beds or in rows or make islands. This will add beauty to your vegetable beds and lure beneficial insects.

-Fennel, angelica, coriander, dill, and wild carrot (Bishops's Flower) all produce the tiny flowers required by parasitoid wasps.

-Daisy, chamomile and mints (spearmint, peppermint) will attract predatory wasps, hover flies, and robber flies.

As your plantings mature and resident populations of beneficial insects are established, the need for chemical pesticides and other aggressive insect control techniques will diminish. As you plant annuals that attract beneficial insects, your garden will become more natural and balanced for the healthy production of vegetables and flowers.

*Courtesy of [www.grinningplanet.com](http://www.grinningplanet.com)*

### Natural Pest Control by Insect Species

Pest Insect	Predator Insect
Aphids	Aphidius
Aphids	Aphidoletes
Thrips, spidermites, fungus gnats	Beneficial mites
Eggs of many pest insects	Damsel bugs (Nabidae)
Whiteflies, aphids, thrip, spider mites	Dicyphus
Slugs, small caterpillars and grubs	Ground beetles
Grubs	Spring Tiphia wasp
Aphids, mealybugs and others	Hoverflies
Scale, aphids, mites, soft-bodied insects	Lacewings
Aphids, mites	Ladybugs
Thrips, aphids, mites, scales, whiteflies	Pirate bugs
Caterpillars; beetle and fly larvae	Tachinid flies
Whiteflies; moth, beetle and fly larvae	Parasitic wasps

## What to Plant to Attract Beneficial Insects (Predator Insects)

Predator Insect	What to Plant (Insectary Plant)
Lacewings, aphidius, ladybugs	Achillea filipendulina
Hoverflies	Alyssum
Ground beetles	Amaranthus
Spring Tiphia wasp	Peonies, firethorn, forsythia
Ichneumon wasp, ladybugs, lacewings	Anethum graveolens (dill)
Lacewings	Angelica gigas
Ladybugs, hoverflies	Convolvulus minor
Hoverflies, parasitic wasps, lacewings	Cosmos bipinnatus
Dicyphus	Digitalis
Lacewings, ladybugs, hoverflies	Daucus carota (Queen Anne's lace)
Damsel bugs, ladybugs, lacewings	Foeniculum vulgare (fennel)
Pirate bugs, beneficial mites	Helianthus annulus
Hoverflies	Iberis umbellata
Hoverflies, parasitic wasps	Limonium latifolium (Statice)
Aphidius, aphidoletes, hoverflies	Lupin
Parasitic wasps, tachinid flies	Melissa officinalis (lemon balm)
Parasitic wasps, hoverflies, tachinid flies	Petroselinum crispum (parsley)
Pirate bugs, beneficial mites	Shasta daisy
Pirate bugs, aphidius	Sunflowers
Ladybugs, lacewings	Tanacetum vulgare (tansy)
Dicyphus	Verbascum thaspus