

Know organic remedies to control pests and diseases

Vegetable production often involves the use of chemical pesticides. Some farmers cannot afford the rather expensive pesticides, which – if not properly used - entail also other possible disadvantages, like damaging the environment and affecting the consumers of the vegetables. Therefore SEVIA also promotes organic methods to control pests and diseases without chemicals.

We hereby present you some recipes to prepare organic extracts.

How to make neem extract

Neem extract is an organic pesticide for a wide range of pests such as aphids, beetles, grasshoppers, grubs, Japanese beetles, leafhoppers, locusts plant hoppers, scales, snails, thrips, weevils and whiteflies.

Pound 2 kg of neem leaves and place it in a container. Add 2 liters of water, cover the container securely and leave for 3 days. Drain and get a clear extract. Get 1 liter from the 2 liters leaf extract and mix with 9 liters of water. Add 10 ml of soap solution, stir well and spray on the infested plants.



How to make a lemon grass extract

Lemon grass extract is effective for preventing leaf blight and bacterial diseases in vegetables.

Pound 50g of the lemongrass. Soak overnight in 2 liters of water. Drain the extract and put it directly in the sprayer (double or triple the volume of the lemon grass and water depending on your crop population). Drench or spray the extracted juice, once a week. Repeat the application if necessary.



How to make a basil leaves extract

Basil leaves extract can be effective to conquer caterpillars, fruit flies, red spider mites, red scales, spotted leaf beetles, fungal diseases and nematodes.

Pound 50 g of basil leaves and soak overnight in 2 liters of water. Using a strainer, pour-out liquid into the sprayer with 10 ml of soap solution and stir well. Apply once a week, repeat the application if necessary.



How to make soap solution:

- Chop/ grate 1 piece of soap (detergent bar)
- Dissolve in 1 liter of water
- Keep the soap solution in a container

NB: Soap solution is also effective against aphids or whitefly, when sprayed.

How to make a garlic extract

Garlic extract can also be an alternative for controlling caterpillars, fruit flies, red spider mites, broad mites, red scales, spotted leaf beetles, fungal diseases and nematodes.

Peel off 2 kg of garlic and ground or pound finely (using a blender is better). Add 500 ml of water to aid in squeezing or extracting the juice. Use a strainer to get the extract. Pour-off the extract to the bottle/container and add water to make a total of 10 liters extract. Keep the extract in a sealed container. Label the container. Out from the 10 liters extract, get 1 liter and put in a sprayer, add 15 liters of water to complete the full tank load, and add 10 ml of soap solution. Spray early in the morning or late in the afternoon to the infested plants. Spray at 1 week intervals. The solution should be used within 3 months.

How to make a cocktail mix of natural extracts

This cocktail can be used to control sucking and chewing insects.

Chop finely the following plant materials: 1 kg neem leaves, 500 g garlic, 500 g ginger, 5 whole plants of lemon grass and 5 fresh tobacco leaves. Boil them in 20 liters of water. Mix while boiling, add crushed soap to the boiling plant materials. After boiling, let the mixture cool down. Use a net/strainer to get the solution and place in another container. Get 450 ml of natural pesticide in 16 liters water, spray early in the morning or late in the afternoon with 1 week interval. The solution should be used within 3 months.