

## Pest Control of Beetles in the Vegetable Garden

	Appearance	Symptom	Vulnerable Plants	Management	Companion Planting	Natural Predators
<b>Flea Beetles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shiny, metallic beetle with jumping hind legs, blue to black or striped with two wavy yellow stripes</li> <li>• Brown to whitish larvae</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chewed leaves or leaves with “shot hole” appearance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adults feed on foliage, larvae feed on roots &amp; tubers</li> <li>• Arugula, radishes, salad greens, cabbages, potatoes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plant susceptible herbs in shade of taller plants</li> <li>• Remove weeds that serve as hosts</li> <li>• Crop rotation</li> <li>• Plant early emerging varieties as a trap</li> <li>• Hand pick &amp; destroy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nasturtiums, garlic or onions attract natural predators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ground beetles and toads (plant nasturtiums, garlic or onions)</li> </ul>
<b>Cucumber Beetles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spotted or striped, yellow-green beetles, dark head</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eaten flowers, leaves, sometimes young fruit, stems, roots</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cucumber and squash family</li> <li>• Sometimes corn, beans, peas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hand picking</li> <li>• Companion planting</li> <li>• Mulch plants thickly to block larvae from emerging</li> <li>• Floating row covers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Radishes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ladybugs, soldier beetles, parasitic wasps</li> </ul>
<b>Colorado Potato Beetles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plump or chunky striped bodies (black and yellow) with orange heads</li> <li>• Larvae are orange with black dots</li> <li>• Orange eggs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stripped leaves</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, potatoes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hand picking of adults and eggs</li> <li>• Straw mulch</li> <li>• Crop rotation</li> <li>• Companion planting</li> <li>• Well-rotted manure</li> <li>• Plant early or late to avoid peak season</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Garlic, catnip, tansy and yarrow</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ground beetles, ladybugs, “daddy long legs”</li> </ul>

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### References:

Buckingham, Alan. 2008. **Grow Vegetables**. DK Publishing. New York.

Foster, L.P., K. Fry, D. Macaulay. 2008. **Garden Bugs of Ontario: Gardening to Attract, Repel and Control**. Lone Pine Publishing. Edmonton.

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Trail, G. 2010. **Grow Great Grub: Organic Food from Small Spaces**. Clarkson Potter/Publishers. New York.

Trail, G. 2012. **Easy Growing: Organic Herbs and Edible Flowers from Small Spaces**. Clarkson Potter/Publishers. New York.

### Additional:

Savvy Gardening Newsletter: <https://savvygardening.com/?s=vegetable+pests>

Ottawa/Carlton Master Gardeners Newsletter for Vegetable Gardeners: [http://www.mgottawa.ca/The\\_Edible\\_Garden.php](http://www.mgottawa.ca/The_Edible_Garden.php)