Become a Garden Detective

Heep a watchful eye out for problems when you walk through your garden, turning over leaves and noting the overall appearance of the plant.

Plant problems form into three general categories: 1) insects and animals, 2) disease, and 3) cultural problems.

Symptoms caused by different problems may look remarkably similar. A program of organic pest management starts by identifying the pest or disease contributing to the problem.

Learn as much as you can about the insects and plant problems that you identify in your garden so you can avoid mistaking beneficial insects for pests. You can then intervene to minimize problems.



Once you know the problem you can make a comprehensive plan starting with cultural controls followed by physical controls or biological controls (using beneficial insects found in your area to supplement populations). Set a threshold of tolerable damage.

The following are excellent resources for identifying plant problems and organic insect management:

Organic Gardening for Canada by Laura Peters Gardening Naturally by Sara Williams and Hugh Skinner Garden Bugs of Alberta by Fry, Macaulay and Williamson

LET US KNOW WHAT TOPICS FOR LECTURE OR WORKSHOP SUBJECTS YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING AT THE CAMROSE HERITAGE ARAILWAY STATION.

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