

www.growsmartgrowsafe.org

Grow Smart, Grow Safe®



Garden notes

- Garden without pesticides
- Natural lawn care
- How to's
- Resources
- Download options
- News and events

A gardener's guide
to choosing safer
pesticides and
garden products



Snails and slugs

Search for product name or active ingredient

Go

Clear

Note: Products lower in the table are more hazardous. Differences between close-ranking products may not be significant.

	HAZARDS				Active Ingredients
	Human Toxicity	Pets & Wildlife	Aquatic Life	Water Pollution	

[Snails and slugs](#) (← Click to learn more about ...)

Cultural, physical, and capture methods or mechanical methods

Lowest hazard

Homemade slug and snail traps using inverted melon rinds, boards, beer, etc.	●	●	●	●	
Pick and squish	●	●	●	●	
Contech SlugsAway® Electronic Slug and Snail Fence	●	●	●	●	electric charge
Corry's® Slug & Snail Copper Tape Barrier	●	●	●	●	copper barrier
Oak Stump Farms® Slug Lure	●	●	●	●	bait
Oak Stump Farms® Slug Trap	●	●	●	●	bait
Safer® Slug & Snail Copper Barrier Tape	●	●	●	●	copper barrier
Slug Shield™	●	●	●	●	copper barrier
Slug-X Trap	●	●	●	●	beer
Snail Trap	●	●	●	●	

Low-toxicity pesticides, EPA exempt

Lowest hazard

Dr. Earth® Final Stop Snail & Slug Killer Spray	●	●	●	●	rosemary & rosemary oil , sesame & sesame oil , peppermint & peppermint oil
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EPA-registered pesticide products

Lowest hazard

Bonide® Bug & Slug Killer	○	?	●	○	iron phosphate , spinosad
Gardens Alive!® Escar-Go!® Supreme™ Insect, Slug & Snail Bait	○	?	●	○	iron phosphate , spinosad
Monterey Sluggo Plus® Insect, Slug, and Snail Pellets	○	?	●	○	iron phosphate , spinosad
Bayer Advanced™ Dual Action Snail & Slug Killer Bait	○	?	○	○	iron phosphate
Garden Safe® Brand Slug & Snail Bait	○	?	○	○	iron phosphate
Gardens Alive!® Escar-Go!® Slug & Snail Bait	○	?	○	○	iron phosphate
Lilly Miller® Worry Free® Ferramol Slug & Snail Bait	○	?	○	○	iron phosphate
Monterey Sluggo®	○	?	○	○	iron phosphate
Ortho® elementals™ Slug & Snail Killer	○	?	○	○	iron phosphate

Highest hazard

Cooke® Pest Granules	●	●	●	●	carbaryl , metaldehyde
Corry's® Bug Bait	●	●	●	●	metaldehyde , carbaryl
Deadline® Bug Bait	●	●	●	●	carbaryl , metaldehyde
Lilly Miller® Go West Meal	●	●	●	●	carbaryl , metaldehyde
Lilly Miller® Slug, Snail & Insect Killer Bait	●	●	●	●	carbaryl , metaldehyde
Corry's® Liquid Slug & Snail Control	●	●	●	●	metaldehyde
Corry's® Slug & Snail Death (3.25)	●	●	●	●	metaldehyde
Corry's® Slug & Snail Pellets (MP)	●	●	●	●	metaldehyde
Deadline® Force II™ Slug & Snail Killer	●	●	●	●	metaldehyde
Deadline® Rain Tough™ Slug & Snail Killer	●	●	●	●	metaldehyde
Eliminator® Snail & Slug Bait II	●	●	●	●	metaldehyde
Lilly Miller® Slug & Snail Bait	●	●	●	●	metaldehyde
Lilly Miller® Snail & Slug Mini-Pellets	●	●	●	●	metaldehyde
Lilly Miller® Snail & Slug Spray RTU	●	●	●	●	metaldehyde
Ortho® Bug-Geta® Snail & Slug Killer 1	●	●	●	●	metaldehyde
TurfKing™ Slug & Snail Bait	●	●	●	●	metaldehyde
TurfKing™ Slug & Snail Control Liquid	●	●	●	●	metaldehyde
Vigoro® Snail & Slug Killer Meal 2	●	●	●	●	metaldehyde
Vigoro® Snail & Slug Killer Pellets 2	●	●	●	●	metaldehyde

Grow Smart, Grow Safe®



Home Insects Weeds **Slugs & Snails** Diseases Moss Animal Pests Soil Amendments & Fertilizers Garden Notes About

Slugs & Snails / M

Slug & snail control products

Manage slugs & snails naturally

Manage slugs and snails naturally

Get rid of hiding places like boards or pots, unless you are using them as traps. Choose plants slugs and snails don't like. Ask at your local nursery for ideas.

Handpick slugs and snails. A few evening or early morning "raids" can keep their numbers low. Drop them into a jar of soapy water, or use snip or squish methods.

Use simple traps. Flower pots turned upside down or boards raised an inch off the ground make good traps. Beer traps can help, but must be covered to keep out rain and refilled every few days. In the fall, look for and destroy pearly clusters of eggs under garden debris.

Use barriers. Install copper tape or foil around planting boxes.

Use pesticides as a last resort.

Many baits contain metaldehyde which is poisonous to dogs and cats. Some baits may also contain carbaryl, which is toxic to beneficial insects and fish. If you use these use a tamper-proof bait station to help protect children and pets.

A least-toxic bait (containing iron phosphate) used around seedlings when they are young can protect them until they mature and can withstand a little nibbling.

Pesticides pose varying risks to people, pets and beneficial insects. Keep using non-toxic methods and over time you can reduce pest numbers and the damage they cause.

If you choose to use pesticides, pick a safer product using [Grow Smart, Grow Safe product tables](#).



Criteria for listing in Grow Smart Grow Safe®

- Found on retail shelves in Oregon or Washington
- Active ingredients have been reviewed by Thurston County
- Currently registered for Home Use in Washington

Who we are

- Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County
- Thurston County Environmental Health
- Metro in Portland, Oregon
- Washington State Master Gardeners
- Additional assistance from
 - Oregon State Master Gardeners and many others

Grow Smart, Grow Safe®



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Garden Notes / Good Bug Guide

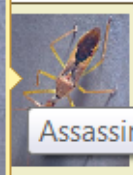
Good bug guide

Assassin Bug

Latin Name: *Family Reduviidae*

Benefits: Assassin bugs are voracious predators of many garden pests including mosquitoes, beetles and large caterpillars.

How To Recognize: This aptly-named, vicious-looking bug is about 1/4 to one inch long with a cone-shaped head and wide curving beak. They may cause a painful bite on a human if captured. Some species squeak if caught. Females lay single eggs in clusters under rocks or in other sheltered spots in summer, and new adults emerge around the following June. There is only one generation per year.



Assassin Bug

[Click to see larger image](#)

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Bacillus Thuringiensis (B.t.)

Benefits: Selective to caterpillars. Relatively non-toxic to humans, pets, birds, and beneficial insects (except caterpillars).

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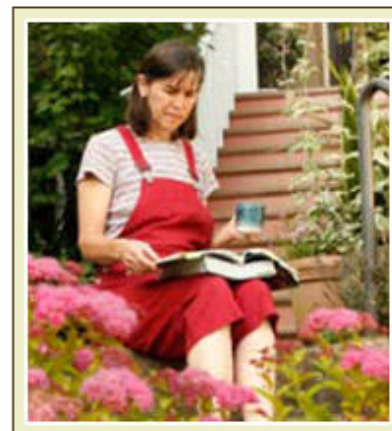
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Garden Notes / Resources

Resources

- [Local nurseries](#)
- [Mail order sources](#)
- [More on gardening from the partners](#)
- [Pesticide and fertilizer disposal](#)
- [More tips!](#)

Links on the Resources pages will take you away from this website. Happy gardening!



Local nurseries

Want to know more about gardening? Looking for plants that will thrive in your garden? Want more ideas for using fewer pesticides? Your local nursery and garden center can help. They are experts with knowledge of what works best where you live.

Oregon: Discover resources for gardeners including [\\$5-off coupons](#) for natural supplies and plants at 37 local retailers.

Washington: Find green gardening products and services at [EnviroStars](#) Landscape Professionals and Nurseries. EnviroStars are recognized for their knowledge and use of effective, sustainable techniques that help you keep your garden beautiful, the environment clean, and your family safe. Participating counties include King, Thurston, Kitsap, Pierce, Whatcom, and Spokane.

Where to find GSGS

- www.growsmartgrowsafe.org
- www.lhwmp.org
- www.oregonmetro.gov
- www.co.thurston.wa.us/health

Future work

- iPhone App
 - Mobile Web Site
 - eBook
 - Printable version
-
- All containing up to date product information

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Grow Smart,
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