



From the Martin's Home & Garden library

Companion Planting



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You've got the right soil amendments, the right fertilizer, the right tools – now, further ensure success in your garden with companion planting!

Some plants act as natural pest repellants, some are great at attracting beneficial insects, and others can improve the taste of their neighbors. By paying attention to what each plant can bring to your garden, you can naturally increase your vegetable harvest this year.

Questions? Give Martin's Home & Garden a call at 615-867-7121!



01

Companion Flowers

Calendula (Marigold)



*Lady Godiva® Orange English Marigold
from Proven Winners*

Calendula (zone 2-11) act as a trap crop. They attract aphids, which you don't normally want to happen in your garden! However, the pests will stay on the calendula and stay away from your vegetables.

The aphid population will also, in turn, attract beneficial ladybugs. Ladybug larvae love to eat aphids and other pests! With a steady supply of food, they will stick around and continue to help your garden.

Calendula also repels hornworms and asparagus beetles.

Cosmos



Cosmos

Cosmos (zone 2-11) bring in beneficial insects but keep the pests out. Plant them to repel aphids, scales, and thrips from your garden beds.

At the same time, they will attract bees to help pollinate your plants and lacewings to further control pests. Lacewings and their larvae naturally eat aphids, mealybugs, thrips, and other unwanted garden visitors.

Geraniums



Boldly®

*Boldly® Dark Red Geranium
from Proven Winners*

Ivy geraniums (zone 9-10) and cranesbill geraniums (zone 3-9) repel several types of garden pests. Plant them around your beds to keep Japanese beetles, cabbage worms, spider mites, and aphids away from your crops.

Nasturtium

Nasturtium (zones 9-11) are another trap crop. Like marigolds, they attract both aphids and ladybugs. The aphids will stay on the nasturtium and off your vegetable plants, and the ladybugs and their larvae will help control the aphid population.



Zinnia

Zinnias (zones 3-10) bring in lots of pollinators! The more your vegetable plants are pollinated, the better your harvest will be. Bees and hummingbirds, in particular, love zinnias. They also attract ladybugs to help with pest control.



*Magellan™ Ivory Zinnia
from Proven Winners*

A close-up photograph of several lavender flower spikes. The flowers are a vibrant purple color and are arranged in dense, elongated clusters along the stems. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting foliage. The lighting is bright and even, highlighting the texture of the petals.

02

Companion Herbs

Basil

Basil repels flies, hornworms, and mosquitoes with its strong scent. It also improves the flavor of any neighboring herbs!



Catnip

Catnip repels small pests, including aphids and beetles, and larger ones like mice and weevils. Beware, though – you may attract all the neighborhood cats to your garden!

Catnip and catmint are both members of the *Nepeta* genus, but they are not the same plant. Catnip has a weedier appearance and white flowers. Catmint is more ornamental with purple flowers. Catmint also lacks nepetalactone, the compound found in catmint that stimulates cats.



Chamomile

Chamomile attracts pollinators and other beneficial insects. Like basil, it also improves the flavor of any surrounding herbs.



Chives

Chives increase the length of the carrots near which they are plants as well as their flavor. They also attract bees and repel Japanese beetles, aphids, and cucumber beetles.



Cilantro (Coriander)

Cilantro keeps spider mites and aphids away.



Dill

Dill repels spider mites, loopers, and aphids. It also attracts beneficial insects, including praying mantids. The mantids and their larvae eat several different pests: aphids, thrips, leafhoppers, earwigs, and more.



Lavender

Lavender deters deer, ticks, codling moths, cabbage moths, and mice. However, it also attract beneficial pollinators, particularly butterflies, to your garden!



*Provence French Lavender
from Monrovia*

Mint

Mint attracts bees to help pollinator your crops while repelling aphids, loopers, snails, and Japanese beetles.



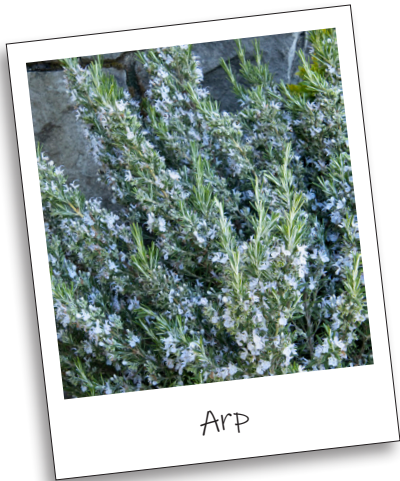
Parsley

Parsley repels aphids and thrips but is great for butterflies. Swallowtail butterflies lay their eggs on parsley leaves. After hatching, their caterpillars then eat the leaves, but they won't decimate your crop. There's plenty to share!



Rosemary

Rosemary repels a variety of garden pests: cabbage moths, carrot rust flies, mosquitoes, and ticks.



Arp Rosemary from Monrovia

Sage

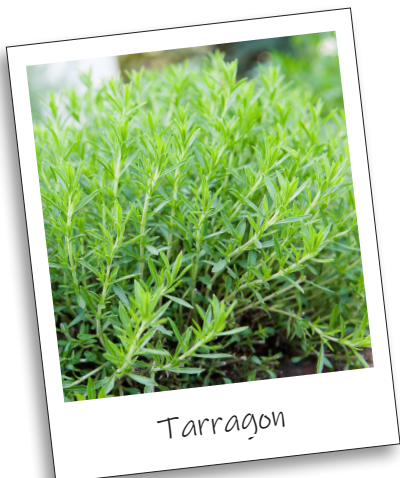
Sage repels carrot rust flies and cabbage moths.

Typically, you want to pinch off any flowers so that the plant can focus on growing their tasty foliage. However, consider letting a few blooms grow. They will attract beneficial pollinators to your garden.



Tarragon

Tarragon will improve the flavor and yield of any crop it is planted near. It is particularly effective with eggplant. Its strong scent also repels nearly any pest.





03

Vegetable Companions

The companions for each of these vegetables either improves the flavor and yield of the crop, repels pests, or attracts beneficial insects. Some provide a combination of the three benefits.

What you should plant with



- Catnip
- Calendula (marigolds)
- Nasturtium
- Rosemary

What you should plant with



- Chives
- Rosemary
- Sage

What you should plant with



- Dill
- Marigolds
- Nasturtium

Don't plant cucumbers near melons. The plants easily cross-pollinate, causing your melons to taste like cucumbers!

What you should plant with



- Basil
- Chives
- Dill
- Geraniums
- Calendula (marigolds)
- Nasturtium
- Rosemary

Don't plant hot peppers near bell peppers. The plants easily cross-pollinate, causing your bell peppers to deliver a surprising kick of heat!

What you should plant with



- Basil
- Calendula (marigolds)
- Dill
- Parsley
- Mint

What you should plant with



- Calendula (marigolds)
- Dill
- Nasturtium



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