

# Petunias' and Organic Pest Control

Petunias and Organic Pest Control Petunias are ideal as companion plants because they are nature's version of a pesticide. They repel a variety of pests including the asparagus beetle, leafhoppers and tomato worms. They are also effective against some types of aphids and Mexican bean beetles. Some of the plants that thrive when you plant petunias as companions include brassicas, beans, basil, tomatoes, grapes, corn and peppers. Roses also fare well when this natural insect deterrent is planted in proximity

Protecting Your Vegetable Harvest The brassica family includes broccoli, cabbage, brussel sprouts and cauliflower. When planting with broccoli or cabbage, petunias will increase the likelihood of you getting a good harvest because they trap cabbage worms. These "worms" are in fact a species of caterpillar that will eat through an entire crop if left unchecked so the best, organic method for you to control these pests is to plant petunias in your cabbage beds. Tomatoes, potatoes, eggplants and tobacco are part of the same family and are susceptible to the same type of pests such as aphids, hornworms, cabbage loopers, Japanese beetles and weevils. Planting petunias or geraniums among your crops will either distract or repel these pests from your harvest plants.

Attracting Beneficial Insects with Companion Plants Petunias are one of the most reliable companion plants due to the wide range of pests they repel. Their scent also attracts bees, butterflies and moths to your vegetable garden which are all beneficial to your plants as they help with pollination. In addition, they also add beauty to your garden. A cabbage patch takes on a whole new look if your cabbage plants are interspersed with petunias.