Neem Oil As An Insecticide

Neem oil is an effective insecticide against many insects that can hurt your plants. These include:

Aphids
Mealybugs
Mites
Scale
Japanese beetles
Whiteflies

Any pest that chews or suck on the plant

An additional bonus for neem oil insecticide is that it does not kill bugs that do not chew on leaves. All beneficial bugs fall into this category, so you can spray your plants with this organic spray and be sure that you will kill the undesirable bugs while keeping the bugs that help you plants, like bees, butterflies and spiders.

Neem oil insecticide is unique in that it does not immediately kill the insects it affects. Instead, for reasons not yet understood by scientists, neem oil insecticide causes a pest to be unable to maintain hydration, which in turn kills it. Some pests are also repelled by neem oil insecticide, which means that they stay away from the plant that neem oil is sprayed on.

Neem Oil As An Fungicide

Neem oil is also an effective fungicide. Applying it to plants can kill harmful and unsightly funguses such as:

Powdery mildew Root rot Rust Black spot Sooty mold All other kinds of fungi

How to apply neem oil foliar spray

Neem oil is normally applied as a spray to the leaves of the plant. While neem oil is a good insecticide, there are some things to keep in mind when using it.

First, some plants can be killed by neem oil, especially if it is applied heavily. Before spraying a whole plant, spray a leaf on the plant and wait 24 hours to check to see if the leaf has any damage. If there is no damage, than the plant will not be harmed by the neem oil.

Second, neem oil should not be applied to a plant in direct sun. If the plant you want to treat is in full sun, apply the neem oil foliar spray in the evening so that it has time to be absorbed overnight.

Apply your neem oil insecticide about once a week to most kill pests and keep them away. Apply neem oil like you would other oil based sprays in that you should make sure that the leaves of the plant are coated, especially where the pest problem is the worst.