

# Fungicide For Plants: How To Make Your Own Fungicide

Gardeners often face the dilemma of controlling pests and disease without the use of harsh and dangerous chemicals, which should be used only as a last resort. When dealing with lawn and garden fungal diseases, homemade lawn fungicide or homemade plant fungicide often solves these problems without damaging the environment and risking the health of you, your children, or your pets.

## Reduce the Need for Fungicide for Plants

To reduce the need for [using a fungicide for plants](#) <sup>[1]</sup>, it may help to select healthy, pest-resistant plants and practice good sanitation in the vegetable garden and flower bed. Keep plants healthy and their growing area weed-free to cut back on the need for fungicide for plants.

More often than not, fungi are the result of pests in the garden. Sometimes, pest control for plants is as simple as a blast of water from the garden hose, knocking off [aphids](#) <sup>[2]</sup> and other piercing and sucking insects. When pest problems and resulting fungal issues require treatment, it's handy to know about DIY fungicides for the garden.

## DIY Fungicides for the Garden

Learning how to make your own fungicide gives you control of the ingredients, many of which are already in your home. Here are some of the more popular items for use in making fungicide for lawns and gardens:

- Mixing baking soda with water, about 4 teaspoons or 1 heaping tablespoon (20 mL) to 1 gallon (4 L.) of water (**Note:** many resources recommend using potassium bicarbonate as a substitute for [baking soda](#) <sup>[3]</sup>).
- Dishwashing soap, without degreaser or bleach, is a popular ingredient for homemade plant fungicide.
- Cooking oils are often mixed into homemade plant fungicide to make them cling to leaves and stems.
- [Pyrethrin leaves](#) <sup>[4]</sup> that come from the painted daisy flower are widely used in commercial fungicide for plants. Grow your own [painted daisies](#) <sup>[5]</sup> and use the flowers as a fungicide for plants. Dry the flower heads, then grind them or soak overnight in 1/8 cup (29.5 mL) of alcohol. Mix with up to 4 gallons (15 L.) of water and strain through cheesecloth.
- [Bordeaux mixture](#) <sup>[6]</sup> for use during the dormant season can control some fungal and bacterial diseases. You can make your own Bordeaux mix with ground limestone and powdered copper sulfate. The most recommended strength for dormant application is 4-4-50. Mix 4 parts of each with 50 gallons (189 L.) of water. If you need less, like for a gallon, reduce the recipe for this homemade plant fungicide to

6.5 to 8 teaspoons (32-39 mL) of the copper sulfate and 3 tablespoons (44 mL) limestone to 1 pint (.5 L.) of water.

## Using Organic Fungicide Recipes

Now that you've learned how to make your own fungicide, use it responsibly. The term organic leads some to believe that these mixtures are completely safe, which is untrue. Use all homemade fungicide for the lawn and garden carefully, especially around children and pets.

**BEFORE USING ANY HOMEMADE MIX:** It should be noted that anytime you use a home mix, you should always test it out on a small portion of the plant first to make sure that it will not harm the plant. Also, avoid using any bleach-based soaps or detergents on plants since this can be harmful to them. In addition, it is important that a home mixture never be applied to any plant on a hot or brightly sunny day, as this will quickly lead to burning of the plant and its ultimate demise.

---

Article printed from Gardening Know How: <https://www.gardeningknowhow.com>

URL to article: <https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/garden-how-to/info/homemade-fungicide.htm>

URLs in this post:

[1] using a fungicide for plants: <https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/garden-how-to/info/using-fungicides-in-garden.htm>

[2] aphids: <https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/plant-problems/pests/insects/homemade-aphid-control.htm>

[3] baking soda: <https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/garden-how-to/info/baking-soda-on-plants.htm>

[4] Pyrethrin leaves: <https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/plant-problems/pests/pesticides/pyrethrum-in-gardens.htm>

[5] painted daisies: <https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/flowers/painted-daisy/painted-daisy-plants.htm>

[6] Bordeaux mixture: <https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/garden-how-to/info/diy-bordeaux-fungicide.htm>

Have any questions about this topic? Visit us at <https://questions.gardeningknowhow.com> to ask your questions and get friendly answers from gardening experts.

**You can also find us at:**

'Like' us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gardeningknowhow>

Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/gardenknowhow> - @gardenknowhow