

WHAT'S EATING MY PLANT?

Nature being what it is, we are sometimes faced with the task of tending to sick plants. We see the holes in the leaves of our plants, but we can't see any insects. What's eating my plant?

If you have not seen the bugs with your own eyes damaging your plant, you'll need to consult experts. It is almost impossible to positively identify insect damage without someone actually seeing the damage itself. So many possibilities exist: slugs, caterpillars, birds, beetles, squirrels, neighbor kids, etc.

To best solve your gardening dilemma, have an expert come to your home to directly see the damaged plant. Next best is to take samples of your afflicted plants to an independent garden center or nursery. Even take a picture with your cell phone. Anything that helps the specialist see what damage you are seeing at home is helpful.

Get informed before using any controls! Make sure you use a control that suits your needs. If you haven't identified your pest or problem yet, don't purchase a control! It may not work which equals wasted money. Once you have the correct control, *read the entire label before using it*, noting 1) when and when not to use it, 2) how much to use, and 3) how often to reapply it.

Cheers, Chuck