Pest Control in Gardens

Basic Principles:

1. Healthy soil means healthy robust plants – less susceptible to diseases and insect pests.
2. Deep beds with organic matter mean good moisture level is always present. (Plants are not stressed out by poor soil nutrition and dry soil tends to be stressed and more susceptible to diseases and insect pests.)
3. Diversity of crops (6-10 varieties) helps reduce pest problems (pests prefer monocrop).
4. Diverse crop varieties are less susceptible to pest problems. Exotic vegetables often need spraying. Grow local crops (70%).
5. Rotate crops every season in every bed.
6. As a last resort use alternative pesticides (botanical pesticides like neem, soap-chilli, soap-tobacco decoctions) or simply spray away the pests by using fine spray of water preferably by mid-day.

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