

# Deluxe Baking Soda Spray

Instead of mixing separate sprays for diseases and insects, consider using Dennis Glowniak's deluxe combo spray, which works for both. Spray weekly and it's "good-bye pests!" promises Dennis, president of the California Organic Garden Club.

## Ingredients and Supplies

- 1 ½ tablespoons baking soda
- 1 tablespoon insecticidal soap
- 1 tablespoon canola oil
- 1 cup plus 1 gallon water
- 1 tablespoon vinegar
- Backpack or pump sprayer

## Directions

1. Mix the baking soda, soap, and oil with 1 cup of water.
2. Add the vinegar. Don't mix the vinegar in until last or the mixture may bubble over.
3. Pour the mixture into the sprayer and add 1 gallon of water. Shake or stir to combine the ingredients.
4. Spray plants, covering the tops and bottoms of the leaves.

Yield: About 1 gallon of baking soda spray

## BAKING SODA'S BEST AS A PROBLEM PREVENTER

You should always keep a simple solution of 1 teaspoon baking soda to a quart of water mixed and ready for action in your garden, states Dorothy Read, editor of *The Garden Sampler* magazine, which is based in Peru, Vermont. The spray stops fungal diseases on everything from roses to pumpkins, Dorothy claims.

Dorothy's recipe is simple and effective at combating fungal diseases such as black spot and powdery mildew, but there are

other versions you can try as well. No matter which recipe you use, be snappy about it, Dorothy urges, because while bicarbonates stop the spread of fungi, they can't clean up a diseased mess. Dorothy explains that baking soda works best as a preventive—if you've had trouble with fungal diseases in the past, start spraying susceptible plants before disease symptoms start and continue at weekly intervals to prevent the problem. 🌱

FORMULAS FOR DISEASE CONTROL  
DUST WIPER  
1 Tbsp. chili powder