

Companion Planting

Here are some helpful tips from **KETTLEBY HERB FARMS**

“No plant is an island” and neighbouring species affect each other in many different ways. Large leafy plants can offer shade or wind protection to less robust plants. Many flowering plants attract beneficial insects that act as predators for pests or valuable pollinators. Other herbs act as insect repellants and other produce strong root secretions which affect the surrounding soil and may be taken up by neighbouring plants. Plants with deep root systems survive when the topsoil dries out and so produce a microclimate for neighbouring shallow rooted plants.

Basil-companion to tomatoes, dislikes rue intensely. Improves growth and flavor. Repels flies and mosquitoes.

Bergamot-companion to tomatoes, improves growth and flavour

Borage-companion to tomatoes, squash, strawberries; deters tomato worm, improves growth and flavour.

Caraway-loosens soil

Catnip-deter flea beetle

Cayenne Pepper-helps to deter rabbits, mice and other animals taking advantage of your green thumb. Sprinkle the dried flakes around plants.

Chamomile-companion to most plants and vegetables, improves growth, flavour and health. Known as the ‘Plants Physician’, as it improves the health of all plants around it. Chamomile tea added to the water of fresh flower arrangements helps the flowers last longer. Misting seedlings with chamomile tea also helps prevent ‘dampening off’-that is when the seedlings emerge looking healthy and then a day or two later just fall over.

Chervil-companion to radishes, improves growth and flavour

Chives-companion to carrots, improves growth and flavour

Costmary-deters moths and ants

Dill-companion to cabbage, dislikes carrots, improves growth and flavour-do not plant near fennel-cross breed.

Fennel-plant away from gardens, most plants dislike it.

Flax-deters potato bug, companion to potatoes and carrots.

Garlic-plant near roses and raspberries, deters Japanese beetles, improve growth and flavour

Hyssop-deters cabbage moth. Keep away from radishes, attract beneficial wasps and bees.

Lavender-repels moths and flies

Lemon Balm-generally beneficial to most plants.

Lovage-improves flavour and health of most plants

Mint-companion to cabbage and tomatoes, deters white cabbage moth, flies and ants. A bunch of fresh mint in the kitchen discourages flies.

Nasturtium-plant under fruit trees, deters aphids, squash bugs, striped pumpkin beetles.

Nettle-companion to potatoes, deters potato bug

Parsley-attracts the handsomely striped caterpillar of the black swallowtail butterfly. (Also found on dill, rue)

Pennyroyal-deters flies, white fly, ants.

Pleurisy Root-Butterfly Weed- a member of the milkweed family and a beautiful addition to any herb garden and will attract many Monarch Butterflies to your garden as will Echinacea.

Rosemary-deters cabbage moth, bean beetle and carrot fly.

Rue-Keep away from basil, plant near roses, raspberries; deters Japanese beetle and cats. This plant can cause severe allergic skin reactions to people, so use with caution.

Sage-plant with Rosemary, cabbage and carrots, keep away from cucumbers. Deters cabbage moth, carrot fly.

Southernwood-plant here and there in garden, improves growth and flavor and deters many pests.

Summer Savory-plant with beans and onions-improves flavour and growth.

Tansy-companion to Roses and raspberries, deters flying insects, Japanese beetles, ants etc., attracts earthworms

Tarragon-good throughout the garden

Thyme-plant throughout the garden, repels many pests and attracts many beneficial insects and bees.

Valerian-good anywhere in the garden.

***Bergamot, Anise Hyssop, Thyme, Borage, Marjoram, Hyssop**-these along with a number of other herbs will attract many beneficial wasps to your garden that will prey on many undesired pests. They also attract plenty of bees to ensure plant pollination and for the bee keepers-they can even produce incredibly scented honeys.