



Beware: Cute Rabbits can Wreak Havoc on your Landscape!

By Dr. Moon

Urban rabbit populations have escalated over the past few years, posing a threat to our plants. As city areas expand, rabbits' natural predators, such as bobcats, hawks, coyotes, and foxes, are becoming scarce, leading to a surge in rabbit populations.

With their remarkable breeding capabilities, Rabbits and their growing population are eating their way through our plants. With a 28 to 31-day gestation, rabbits can produce 98 bunnies (kits) annually. A single female bunny (doe) can give birth to up to 14 babies at a time, and they can have seven litters a year. Our plants are indeed at a disadvantage against these ravenous bunnies.

Rabbit repellents are usually recommended, but I have found that most of them do not work well. This is because rabbits can become accustomed to the smell or taste of the repellent, rendering it ineffective over time. If you want to try one, the top 2 rated repellents are Solar Ultrasonic Repellent Defender and Plantskydd Animal Repellent. You can read the testimonials online.

The most effective long-term solution is to choose plants that are resilient to rabbit damage. Here's a comprehensive list of shrubs, ground cover, vines, ornamental grasses, perennials, and annuals that can withstand rabbits' appetites, providing peace of mind and a beautiful garden. This isn't a complete list, but it's a good place to start if these cute bunnies bother your plants!



**Boxwood • Cotoneaster • Flowering Quince • Yaupon Holly •
Carissa Holly • Needlepoint Holly • Peony • Rhododendron •
Viburnum • Yew**



**Ajuga • Bleeding Heart • Blue Fescue • Lamb's Ear • Lamium •
Pachysandra • Salvia • Sedum • Vinca Minor • Vinca Major • Virginia
Creepers • Wisteria**



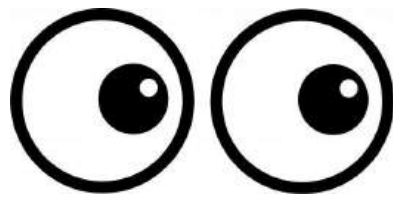
Most Varieties

Blonde Ambition • Regal Mist Pink Muhly • Weeping Lovegrass

(Some of our favorites pictured left to right)



**Ageratum • Allium • Anise • Artemesia • Aster • Astilbe • Baptisia
 • Basil • Bee Balm • Begonia • Black Eyed Susan • Catmint •
 Chives • Columbine • Coreopsis • Daffodil • Dianthus • Dusty
 Miller • Fern • Foxglove • Fritillaria • Geranium • Ginger •
 Goldenrod • Hellebore • Iris • Kniphofia • Lamb's Ear • Lantana •
 Larkspur • Lavender • Lungwort • Marigold • Mint • Milkweed •
 Peppers • Poppy • Russian Sage • Salvia • Sedum • Snapdragon •
 Spider Flower • Sweet Alyssum • Sunflower • Tarragon • Thyme •
 Verbena • Veronica • Vinca • Yarrow • Yucca • Zinnia**



BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR-

Aphids, Scale, and Powdery Mildew on Crape Myrtles

If you notice your crape myrtle leaves appearing shiny and wet, not due to rain or irrigation, it's likely a sign of aphids. These pests leave a sticky residue on plants and the ground, often leading to the growth of fungus that turns plants black. However, you can effectively combat aphids with *Bio-Advanced Insect, Disease, & Mite Control*, a 3-in-1 product that controls Insects, Diseases, and Mites, or with Neem Oil, which also helps with insects, mites, and some diseases. Rest assured, once you take control of the aphids, the sticky, wet “honeydew” will disappear.



Crape myrtles are also highly susceptible to scale, stationary insects found on plant trunks and branches. You can use Neem Oil for temporary control, *BioAdvanced Tree and Shrub Protect & Feed*, or *Bayer Tree and Shrub Protect & Feed* for controlling scale and aphids. After application, make sure to water into the soil.



Powdery mildew is a fungus that can impact young leaves, shoots, and flowers of plants. Symptoms include white spots on leaves, early wilting, and stunted growth. An approved fungicide like *Daconil* treats powdery mildew and other leaf spot diseases.



*****When treating for insects and diseases, be sure to follow label instructions for application and watering.***



Happy Father's Day

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June 2025 Issue of *Gardening by the Moon*