



Observe → Identify → Act. Don't guess.

STEP 1: WHAT DO YOU SEE?

☐ Leaves curling/crumpling

☐ Holes in leaves

☐ White cotton clusters

☐ Sticky residue

☐ Yellow speckles/dust

☐ Flies jump when touched

STEP 2: MATCH THE PEST

**Aphids**

Soft green/black insects, sticky residue, on new growth

Chilli, tomato, leafy greens

**Whiteflies**

Tiny white flies on leaf underside, fly up when disturbed

Tomato, brinjal, cucurbits

**Mealybugs**

White cottony masses, ants around plant, stunted growth

Hibiscus, chilli, curry leaf

**Spider Mites**

Fine webs, yellow speckles, leaves dry & brittle

Beans, cucumber, roses

**Caterpillars**

Big holes in leaves, black droppings, chewed edges

Cabbage, tomato, spinach

**Thrips**

Silvery streaks, deformed flowers, tiny fast-moving insects

Onion, chilli, flowers

STEP 3: ROOT CAUSE CHECK

Tick honestly. If 2+ apply, pests are a symptom, not the disease.

Overwatering

No drainage

Too much N

Crowded

No airflow

No neem spray

STEP 4: QUICK RESPONSE

Pest	First Action
Aphids	Water spray + neem oil
Whiteflies	Yellow sticky traps + neem
Mealybugs	Alcohol swab + neem
Spider mites	Increase humidity + neem
Caterpillars	Hand-pick + Bt spray
Thrips	Neem + blue traps
Soil pests	Dry soil + repot



COMMON MYTH

"Organic gardening means no pests." Wrong. It means controlled pests. Zero pests = fake or poisoned system.