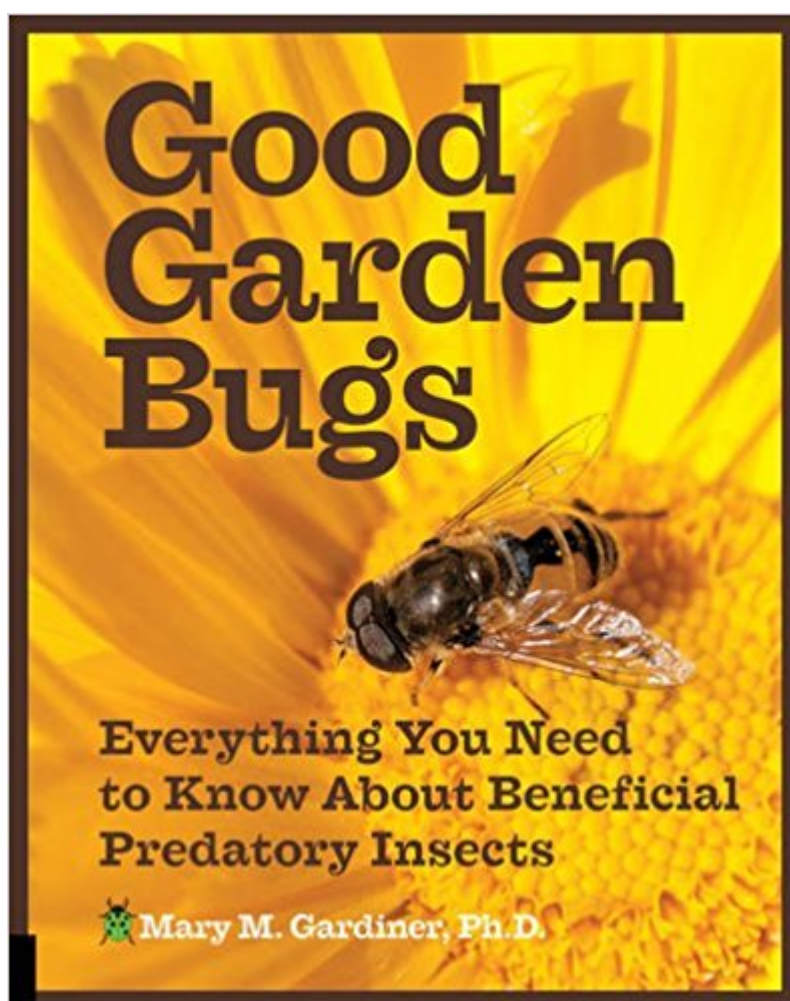


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# Good Garden Bugs: Everything You Need To Know About Beneficial Predatory Insects



## Synopsis

Your guide to the beneficial insects in your garden! Good Garden Bugs is an easy-to-follow reference to beneficial insects that provide pest control, allowing your garden to grow full and bountiful. Aphids, caterpillars, grubs, and slugs are not only creepy-crawlies, they can wreak havoc on your garden and plants. But fear not! You don't need dangerous chemicals to enjoy a lively, healthy garden. The secret? More lady beetles, fewer aphids! Wildlife in your garden--especially insects--can be natural pesticide alternatives. From mantids to beetles to wasps, spiders, and everything in between, entomologist Mary Gardiner tells you how to identify these beneficial bugs, how to enhance your home landscape as a habitat, and how to work with them to grow and enjoy your garden.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

**How To Use This Book** In my experience, many gardeners have a natural curiosity about the insects they find among their plants. Not only do they have the desire to learn how to identify specific bugs, but they are also intrigued by what these insects are doing in the garden on a day-to-day basis. This is important because the support natural enemies provide in the garden can vary according to where they may be in their lifecycle. Some insect species, for example, consume the most garden pests while in the larval stage, while others are most helpful as adults. This comprehensive guide includes information about how to identify natural predators in your garden in addition to important details about the predator's life history attributes and

behavioral traits. And I couldn't resist including a few odd creatures that are more scarce, but fascinating. These "odd bugs" are a reminder of the incredible diversity within this group of arthropods.

[View larger](#)    [A Word About the Photos \(and there's over 200!\)](#)    What good is an identification guide without pictures? The majority of the arthropod images that appear on these pages are from the website [bugguide.net](http://bugguide.net), which is hosted by the Department of Entomology at Iowa State University. This website is an amazing resource where anyone can post images of insects they've discovered in their gardens. Experts monitor the website and provide identifications and information about the submitted arthropods. The photographers featured in this book range from professionals to homeowners who found something in their backyard worth snapping and submitting. It was not possible to include a photo of every insect mentioned in this book, but I encourage you to search [bugguide.net](http://bugguide.net) for additional images. And, feel free to submit your own photos to identify natural enemies and learn more about them.

"Gardeners looking for environmentally friendly ways to care for their yard and garden will find this a helpful resource. This book is science-based and yet very approachable. The book has a thorough index ready to help if classification orders are not your way of thinking. The book has a striking layout and feels wonderful in your hand. The sturdy pages should hold up to some outdoor wear. If you're a gardener looking to improve pest management and the ecology of your space, this is your book." - Joy Landis, Michigan State University Integrated Pest Management  
"I received the book yesterday and it is beautiful! I think it's the best garden bug book I have ever seen." - Editor, Garden Therapy

Dr. Mary Margaret Gardiner is an Associate Professor in the Department of Entomology at The Ohio State University. She received a B.S. in Resource Ecology and Management from the University of Michigan, a M.S. in Entomology from the University of Idaho and a Ph.D. in Entomology from Michigan State University. Mary is originally from small community in northern Michigan where she grew up gardening with her family and enjoying the outdoors. Her love of nature developed into a career studying how human activity influences the sustainability and ecological function of agricultural and urban habitats. Much of her current research takes place within Cleveland, OH, a city that encompasses 20,000 vacant lots where homes and businesses once stood. Here, her laboratory is studying how the redesign of vacant land to restore native plant communities, improve

storm water infiltration, and provide access to locally-produced food influences the environmental quality of city neighborhoods. Mary is also a State Extension Specialist who is active in the Ohio Master Gardener Program. She regularly presents programs on arthropod identification and how to enhance home landscapes, urban green spaces and small-scale farms as habitats for beneficial arthropods.

I now keep this book in my pickup for a reference to help me ID bugs when crop scouting. Employing IPM or Integrated Plant/Pest Management we need to know friend from foe. The last thing we want to do is disrupt the good guys with pesticides. The photos are excellent and take a lot of the guesswork out of identification.

A great book emphasizing the benefits of insects in the landscape and what they are doing there! Very thorough and informative. Covers attracting beneficial insects too! The book is good quality and colorful with excellent pictures and illustrations.

nice book, new condition

Many good ideas on how to attract bugs. The photos are helpful in identifying the bugs.

Very good detail on specific bugs and their biology. Would like more info on how they relate to gardening.

Description of what the bugs do was inadequate . A chart showing the benefits and detriments of each bug would help to remember or look up for review.

Valuable!

Thumbs Up!

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