

## NATURAL WAYS TO REPEL MOSQUITOS

Make use of a variety of plants in your yard to limit mosquitos

### Citronella



Citronella is one of the most common ingredients in most mosquito repellents. It's a beautiful perennial clumping grass that emits a strong aroma that masks other scents, and keeps mosquitoes from being attracted to things located around it. Citronella can get to be a very tall 5 or 6 feet high! Grow citronella in pots or plant it directly in a yard or garden bed.

### Geranium



This beautiful flowering plant is a great choice for mosquito repellent. When planted in a hanging container, the colorful blooms will cascade over the side of the pot, providing a beautiful visual piece as well as a very useful bug repellent!



Lavender is a gorgeous purple flowering plant with a soothing, calming scent. It's also a natural mosquito repellent. Grow it indoors near a sunny window, or outside in your garden or flower bed to keep the bugs away.

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### Lemon Balm



Another great choice for a mosquito repelling plant is lemon balm. Also known as horsemint and bee balm, it's very easy for beginning gardeners. Lemon Balm is a hardy plant, resists drought, and grows well even in shade and is fast growing. It can sometimes be an aggressive plant, so you might want to contain it to a pot.

### Peppermint



Most bugs despise the smell and taste of peppermint, so planting it around your home is a great way to keep them from dropping by uninvited! Plus, if you do happen to get bitten, peppermint leaves rubbed directly onto the skin make a great itch relief treatment!

### Marigolds



Marigolds contain Pyrethrum, an ingredient found in many insect repellents, and they have a unique aroma which bugs find repulsive. The flowers themselves are hardy and beautiful and make a great border or addition to any flower bed.

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### Catnip



Catnip is a great mosquito deterrent! In fact, in a 2010 study, researchers found that catnip is 10 times more effective than DEET, the ingredient commonly found in bug repellents and is a very easy plant to grow.

### Basil



Basil is a quick and easy mosquito repellent, and you will also have a delicious fresh herb on hand. There are many different varieties of basil around; Many expert gardeners recommend trying lemon basil or cinnamon basil to deter insects.

### Pennyroyal



Pennyroyal flower is a natural deterrent for mosquitoes! Great to plant around your flowerbeds. Pennyroyal plants also make great groundcovers, and they attract a plethora of beautiful butterflies.

*This information is adapted from [naturallivingideas.com](http://naturallivingideas.com)*