

Simple Gardening

Its funny.

When I first started my gardens up here in N.Y. zone 5b, I had many insects. The first year Colorado tater beetles took out my taters en mass. Swarms of them descended. Now no more bad buggies.

And it was because I made the soils live again. Through lots of tlc, and organic compost. Manures, green sand help tremendously. I get just a few leaf bites but nothing really damaging. Just as was foretold in the gardening classes, and books.

A healthy garden rarely needs non-organic fertilizers, or pesticides. After being raised with "better living through chemistry" it was a strange departure. An alternate reality. And little by little I dumped the conventional wisdom. Which by the way is less then 100 years old. And I went back to centuries old practices and they work.

As an added plus I feel very connected to the earth. It is an innate, but very intimate bound. And I don't feel out of place or time when I play in the garden, to me all work no matter how hard becomes play on some level when to do with touching the earth.
frank petrie