**How to get rid of bugs on hibiscus plants**

I was just wandering around in my garden that the hibiscus plant caught my eye. I saw some insects roaming inside the plant for which I started searching for. As I researched I found that those insects were not the only which I thought would only attack the plant of hibiscus. There are several other insects too which would likely attack the hibiscus plant. First of all, I will tell you the hibiscus plant. It is called as the group of the flowering plants found in the family of mallow known as Malvaceae. That group of plant is not just made up of some plants, but there are several different species that are vernacular to the tropical, toasty temperature and for sub tropical regions all around the world. Hibiscus plants also known as the rose mallow are mainly conspicuous and huge flowers which can be found globally. Cold and Hot teas are served all around the world which are made up of hibiscus plants. This tea is known for its items which are inside it, and that are vitamin C having red color and a flavor of tart. There are around 100 species for the hibiscus plants that are to seen all over the world, and they all have some kind of specialty which makes them differ from each other. One of the most popular is:

* Red hibiscus: This is considered as the flower for the goddess kali of the Hindus and is mainly found in the different parts of India and Bengal. They have a culture of offering the hibiscus their Lord Ganesha and their goddess kali.

In the country of Philippines, the hibiscus also known as the gumamela in their language is often used by the children of Philippines for making bubbles to past their time and have fun. In this process, the leaves and the flowers of hibiscus are crushed in order to produce a sticky type of mixture which they then add with the soap to create more bubbles. In some countries like Hawaii and Tahiti, girls wear these hibiscus flowers to show their marital status or if they are single. If the girl is wearing hibiscus in her right ear, it is concluded that the girl don’t have any boyfriend neither she is married, although she is open for relationships and is single. If the girl is wearing hibiscus in her left ear then she does have a boyfriend and she is a married women, by which many men doesn’t go after them. This is a type of tradition in Hawaii and Tahiti. Hibiscus plants have different uses hence they can be found worldwide. So that’s why different kinds of insects and bugs are after this hibiscus plant. Insects and bugs which mainly attack hibiscus plants are spider mites, ants, mealy bugs and aphids. Ants don’t attack hibiscus plants though; they are after the substance which is produced by the aphids after devouring the hibiscus plant. So in order to make the ants leave, you would have to eliminate the aphids from the hibiscus plant.

After getting to know all of these facts and features of the hibiscus plants, I strived to search more about them, in order to completely erase the existence of insects and bugs from the hibiscus plant. Insects that are most common and can be found everywhere is the Melon aphids also known as the Aphis gossypii. It has a size of 6/100 inch with color between green-black to yellowish-green. They mainly feed form the leaves, the rich juice which is filled with nutrients from inside. They attack in groups and can damage the whole hibiscus plant within some time. It is very difficult to get rid of them, but if the person is persistent enough like I am about to be, you can make your hibiscus plant insects and bugs free. There are certain measures that should be followed to make your hibiscus plant free from all the insects and that can be explained as below:

* Spray on the infiltrated hibiscus plant which has been affected by melon aphids with the full pressure of water from the garden hose to remove them.
* These melon aphids are very slow moving insects so once they are removed from the hibiscus, they will die due to starvation.
* It is really necessary to check your hibiscus plant daily and water them in order to remove all of those melon aphids.
* If a spray of water doesn’t work than, use the insecticidal soap or rosemary oil and apply on it.
* While applying the oil or soap, cover the branches crotches with the coating and don’t forget the leaves.
* Each 10 to 14 days after, repeat these steps until the hibiscus plant is free from the aphids.
* Buy a package of imidacloprid for treating the soil around the hibiscus which is severely damaged but do it according to the instructions written on the package.
* Watering the plant to ensure the after affects of the package.
* It will take around 3 to 4 days for the aphids which are on the hibiscus to die.
* Controlling the aphids will help you to control the growth of ants as they feed on the aphids.

**White Flies:**

They are also most commonly found at the hibiscus plant which have gnat-size and are miniscule. They too suck out the juice from the hibiscus underside leaves filled with nutrients. In order to control these white flies, Sticky traps are the solution for it. Not just the sticky traps but they can be controlled by the horticultural oil and insecticidal soap which makes the hibiscus free from all of these white flies.

**Thrips:**

These are the narrow insects with a very small size. They usually lay their eggs inside the buds of hibiscus, which the buds of the hibiscus to drop down before even flowering. They can be removed by only trick. Horticultural oil is the only best method which is applied on the hibiscus plant in order to remove the thrips from the hibiscus.

**MealyBugs:**

They are those kinds of pests that usually suck the juice out of the leaves of the hibiscus. They have a soft body, with a mass of like cotton, wearing a protective layer with waxy surface. They can be prevented for the hibiscus plant and controlled with the insecticidal soap or horticultural oil.

**Scale:**

They may either be the soft scale having features like mealy bugs or the armored scale with a covering of like plate and are flat in size. These both scales are dangerous for the hibiscus as they suck not only leaves but the trunks and stems too of the hibiscus plant. Soft scale can either be removed by insecticidal soap or the horticultural oil. Armored scale, if they are not removed with insecticidal soap or the horticultural oil. Then, chemical pesticides should be used to make them go away.

**Ants:**

I have described about the ants before in the starting paragraphs of this article. Ants doesn’t damage hibiscus in any way, but they are concerned with the beneficial insects like lady bugs, assassin bugs, parasitic miniature wasps, green lace wings and syrphid fly larvae. These beneficial insects feed onto those insects mostly like aphids which damages the hibiscus. Ants feed on aphids for the honeydew which is produced by the aphids after sucking the leaves. So Ants main concern is the beneficial insects which it feeds on time to time. So instead of killing the ants, give them the bait for something more sweetish than the aphids. While in the meantime, you can get rid of the insects and bugs inside hibiscus plants.

Gerbera daisies are almost like the hibiscus plants. Although there features are different, but the care they need is the same as hibiscus plant. Gerbera daisy is also affected by the same insects which damages hibiscus. Gerbera daisy needs more attention in order for them to grow. Sap sucking insects mostly attack gerbera daisy.

In order to control pests from hibiscus, beneficial insects should be encouraged as they feed on the insects which damages hibiscus. Don’t ever use the chemical pesticides unless or until there is an urgent need for it. As these chemical pesticides often kill the beneficial insects which can even make the problem of insects with hibiscus worse than ever in the future. It is though correct that after using the chemical pesticides, no insect remains intact but it do have many negative effects. Horticultural oil and insecticidal soap is much better than the pesticides. Some say that the drenching of systematic root can be much more of a better option, as it lasts for longer period. Instead of doing anything on your own, when you don’t have any clue of what’s going on. Call or go to the local cooperative extension office and ask for their assistance. So that was the part of my story, but slowly or gradually I figured out a way and also provided the knowledge to you. These steps are very beneficial if they are used carefully without disturbing the other plants in your garden. These three steps as stated below should be followed regularly:

* Properly watering the plant and keeping it fertilized.
* Keeping the area near plants clean and tidy as it helps in healthier growth.
* Stop or remove the growth of damaged or dead plants.
* Proper sunlight should be given to theses plants.

<https://homeguides.sfgate.com/rid-black-aphids-hibiscus-45243.html>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hibiscus>

<https://www.hunker.com/13406066/how-to-get-rid-of-bugs-on-a-hibiscus-plant>