Bait

- Baiting is most effective when placed late afternoon or evening
- Irrigate or apply water BEFORE applying bait to encourage snail and slug activity.
- Place bait in moist and protected locations and in known snail and slug crossings.
- Do not pile bait in mounds or clumps, especially more hazardous bait, since it makes more attractive to pets and children.

Iron Phosphate and Sodium Ferric EDTA

- Causes snails and slugs to stop feeding. Dies 3 to 6 days later. Evidence of death may not be readily visible.
- Safe to use around pets, children, fish, birds, beneficial insects, and other wildlife.
- Can be used around gardens, ornamentals, and fruit trees.
- Check product for Organic certification.
- Can remain active for up to 2 weeks, even with repeat wettings.

Metaldehyde:

- Dehydrates snails and slugs. Kills within 1 to 3 days.
- Poisonous to pets, do not use where children and pets could encounter them.
- Avoid getting bait on plants and do not apply to food crops after the edible portion has formed.

PESTICIDE PRECAUTIONS

Read and follow directions on the manufacturer’s label. Check if products are approved for crops and follow rates of application. THE LABEL IS THE LAW! If you have questions about pesticides or repellents, please contact your local Hawai‘i Department of Agriculture (HDOA) Pesticides Branch. Contact can be found at https://hdoa.hawaii.gov/pi/files/2013/01/Pesticide-Branch-Contacts-General-10-16.pdf University of Hawai‘i Cooperative Extension at http://cooperativeextension.hawaii.edu/

Other helpful sites:

National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC), http://npic.orst.edu/


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Know your slugs from your snails

All slugs and snails can be hosts of the Rat Lungworm parasite but the Semi-Slug (Parmarion martensi) can be more heavily infected with the parasite.

Semi-slugs can climb on structures, e.g. exterior house walls, drain pipes, and water tanks, as well as on fruit trees, e.g. banana, papaya, and avocado. They are found under plastic and in piles of compost, fallen palm leaves, and in other types of rotting organic matter.

Know your slugs from your snails

Effective management of slugs and snails utilizes a combination of methods, including elimination of desired hiding places, plant selection, barriers and traps, and baiting. None of these should be considered stand alone practices.

Manage your growing environment

- Reduce number of places where snails and slugs can hide during the day. Check under boards, cardboard, stones, weed cloth, in dense ground covers, sheltered areas, soil crevices, and around trunks and weedy areas.
- Check and monitor mulched areas for slug/snail presence as these areas can provide a good slug environment, offering plenty of hiding spaces.
- Don’t leave pet dishes outside overnight — snails and slugs are attracted to pet food and the rat lungworm parasite they carry can also sicken pets.
- Practice good watering techniques — slugs prefer a moist environment and tend to avoid the sun and feed at night. Avoid watering late in the day, water early in morning to allow water to evaporate, and use drip irrigation with water directed toward individual plants.

For more information please contact Dr. Cynthia Nazario-Leary cnazario@hawaii.edu 808-244-3242 x. 229
Physically Remove Snails and Slugs

- Handpicking and trapping can be very effective at reducing snail and slugs if done thoroughly on a regular basis.
- Draw out snails and slugs by watering area in the late afternoon.
- After dark, search for them using flashlight.
- For both handpicking and trapping, place collected snails/slugs in a container of saline solution, 7 parts water to 1 part salt. Make sure container has a lid.
- Let sit in saline solution for minimum of 48 hours to kill both slug/snail and parasite. Dispose in plastic bag in trash. DO NOT crush or add to compost.

Snails and Slugs like to eat...

- Succulent foliage
- Seedlings
- Basil
- Beans
- Broccoli
- Cabbage
- Dahlia
- Lettuce
- Marigolds
- Most leafy greens
- Ripening fruit, e.g., strawberry, tomatoes

Choose Plants and Planting Areas with Care

- Grow vegetable gardens and susceptible plants as far away from snail and slug hiding places.
- In hard to manage areas, select non-edible plants or plants they do not prefer.
- Slugs and snails tend to not eat plants that are woody, highly scented, and/or have stiff leaves. However, slugs and snails may still use these plants to hide in and all plants should be checked for presence of slugs and snails.

References:


Set Traps

- Traps include board, beer, and melon rind traps.
- Traps will only attract slugs and snails for only a few feet. Install several of them around garden area.
- Beer traps need to be replenished every few days to keep the level deep enough to for them to drown.
- Traps must have deep, vertical sides to keep the snails and slugs from crawling out and a cover to reduce evaporation.
- Place traps in early evening and scrape off slugs and snails the following morning. Dispose of properly in container of saline solution.

Erect Barriers

- Copper strips — Copper bands should be at least 2 inches wide and must be kept shiny and clean.
- Buried copper bands around plants, need to be at least 4 inches tall. Bury a portion of it a few inches below the soil to prevent slugs from crawling beneath the barrier.
- Barriers of desiccating or other abrasives (diatomaceous earth, egg shells, etc.) heaped in a band 1 inch high and 3 inches wide will deter but not kill. These barriers will lose effectiveness after becoming damp and need to be replenished often. They should be used in conjunction with additional snail and slug management strategies.
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**Managing Snails and Slugs to Reduce the Risk of Rat Lungworm Infection**

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Other helpful sites:

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