

## Edible Gardening Series with Sarah Bostick and Carol Wyatt-Evens UF/IFAS Extension Sarasota County

### Resources from Session 6: Nematodes

#### Documents and resources related to nematodes:

- Nematode Management in the Vegetable Garden: <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ng005>
- Nematode Management in Organic Agriculture: <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ng047>
- University of Florida Nematology Lab's website: <https://uflnematodes.wordpress.com/research-extension/>
- Clemson University document about nematode management (including recommendations of nematode-resistant veggie varieties): <https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/root-knot-nematodes-in-the-vegetable-garden/>

And remember: there is no silver bullet to get rid of plant-parasitic nematodes – they are here to stay! But by employing a few (or all!) of these strategies, you should be able to keep their damage to a minimum:

1. **Increase soil organic matter**
  - helps support a healthy soil food web, including beneficials that eat plant parasitic nematodes
2. **Plant nematode-resistant varieties**
  - Most herbs and brassicas (cabbage family) are naturally resistant
  - Look for varieties of susceptible crops (like tomatoes) that have been bred to have nematode resistance.
3. **Start with “clean soil”**
4. **Use mulch!**
  - Helps keep soil moisture and temperature stable – helps support beneficials in the soil
5. **Sanitize hands and tools between garden beds**
6. **Rotate susceptible crops out of beds for 2 to 3 years**
7. **Cover crops and strong-smelling flowers**
8. **Solarization**
  - This literally cooks nematodes – and every other living thing in the soil

Feel free to reach out with questions any time!

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