

## Earwigs

**Author :** David Adams, New Zealand

**Categories :** [Diseases and Pests](#), [Snails, Deer and other Pests](#)

**Date :** December 14, 2009

Hello everyone,

Earwigs are a real problem here too. I didn't have any this year in my first year down patch where there were no weeds nor decaying weed material... Maybe keeping the soil clean helps.

A few years ago I decided that the earwigs must also feed on the plant material around the daffodils so I sprayed all the surrounding area of one patch with a systemic insecticide. I think it was orthene I used. I had no problems with earwigs in that patch so maybe the clue to avoiding the earwig problem is to spray the other things they feed on.

Some people use rolled up newspapers along the daffodil row. The earwigs shelter in the paper during the day so you just pick up the newspaper each morning and burn it.

As to slugs, I understand a flat dish of stale beer is effective in attracting and drowning them.

David Adams

Christchurch