

**Making a Pest Spray Solution for Citrus Trees**  
(adapted from suggestions by the Invisible Gardener)  
<http://invisiblegardener.com/>

**T= Tablespoon**  
**Oz. = Ounce**

**This spray can kill soft bodied insects and scales, and will repel ants.**

**Add to one gallon of water:**

**2 T peppermint Castille soap**

**1 T Hot Chili Oil**

**5 drops Sesame Seed Oil**

**5 T Essential Oil (citronella, tea tree, pennyroyal or cinnamon)**

**Mix well and spray to above ground portions of the infested tree. Use a soft toothbrush to scrub scale insects loose if necessary. Be sure to get full coverage of upper and lower leaf surfaces as well as branch surfaces (notches and crotches) where pests may hide.**

**Check again for pests in one week and repeat if necessary.**

**You can also mix a concentrate to have handy in a spray bottle when you need it. A simple formula is:**

**8 oz Peppermint Castille soap**

**1 oz. Essential Oil (citronella, tea tree, pennyroyal or cinnamon)**

**When ready to use, mix 2-3 T of the Concentrate per quart of water. Apply to affected foliage.**

**Remember: Apply foliar sprays when temperatures are below 90 degrees F. During hot weather periods, limit the use of all foliar sprays to the morning hours, when temperatures are mild.**

**These recipes have been tested on citrus trees with good results. If considering spraying more sensitive plants, please do a small patch test to assure safety before applying. If no phytotoxicity is apparent after 24 hours, it is safe to apply.**

**Always use caution when mixing caustic materials. Wear gloves and avoid touching eyes or face when handling solutions.**