

# The American GARDENER®

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## *rewards of a* Home Orchard

**Impatiens:  
Beyond Busy Lizzies**

**A Love for Lilies**

**Hardy Geraniums for  
Carefree Color**

All Terrain's **Herbal Armor™**, which was recently awarded the National Home Gardening Club's Seal of Approval for effectiveness and consumer value, combines the oils of citronella, peppermint, cedar, lemongrass, geranium, and soybean for a repellent that can be used on skin or fabric and remains effective for four hours.

Researchers continue to seek effective, less toxic means of protecting people from mosquitoes and ticks. Last year, scientists with the Agricultural Research Service in Oxford, Mississippi, isolated two compounds from the American beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) that appear to repel both mosquitoes and ticks.

Beautyberry has long been used as a folk remedy for protecting both humans and animals from a variety of biting insects. The isolated compounds, callicarpinal and intermedeol, may provide options for developing new repellents.

Although mosquitoes and ticks are likely to continue to plague our summers, employing a combination of the strategies described above will help you protect yourself and your family from annoying bites and the potential spread of disease.

*Rita Pelczar is a contributing editor with The American Gardener.*

