



**Sowbugs and Pillbugs**

**Sowbugs and Pillbugs-** Sowbugs and pillbugs are not insects but soil-dwelling crustaceans.

Sowbugs and pillbugs feed primarily on decaying plant material and are very important in the process of decomposing organic matter in the garden. However, they occasionally feed on seedlings, new roots, lower leaves, and fruits or vegetables lying directly on the soil or near a damp soil surface

**Control-**Limit moisture and decaying matter. Try to water early in the day so the soil dries by evening. Using raised beds or planting boxes, plastic mulch, and drip or furrow irrigation instead of sprinklers usually keeps sowbugs from becoming serious problems. Black plastic mulch may be more effective at discouraging sowbugs than white or clear plastic are because it gets hotter