Beautyberry Bug Repellent

Ingredients

1 cup American beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) leaves
4 ounces 90% rubbing alcohol (I use perfumer's alcohol) or vodka
Glass mason jar
Optional- 10 drops essential oil (I use lemongrass infused carrier oil which I make from the lemongrass in my garden)

Instructions
Prep the leaves - Wash & dry, then crush and tear to release the natural oils. Place the crushed leaves into mason jar. Pour alcohol or vodka over leaves until completely covered. Seal jar tightly and store in a cool, dark place for a minimum of 72 hours, up to 2 weeks. Shake the jar daily.
Strain out the leaf matter. Pour the liquid into a spray bottle. I add my lemongrass oil in at this point.