

THE HORDES OF NURGLE

Nurgle Daemon Armies in Warmaster

Back in issue 1 of Fanatic magazine, we featured the Daemonic Legions army list for Warmaster. Since then, we've released models for all the major Powers of Chaos, culminating in this month's release of the Nurgle Daemons. There's still a few Daemon flavoured releases to come (the Beasts and Chariots, for instance), but we thought it was about time we looked back at the Daemon army and presented some suggestions on using these figures, with the brand new Nurgle Daemons as an example.

Daemon Units

The Daemon army list describes units in fairly broad categories, such as 'Daemonic Hordes' or 'Daemonic Beasts' with different names given to each of these units depending which Power of Chaos they hail from. Some of the units in the army list are represented by models for only one power (such as the Daemonic cavalry, where the only models available are the Daemonettes on steeds), while other units are common to all the powers (such as the Daemonic Hordes).

In the Nurgle army are, of course, the corpulent Great Unclean Ones. Daemonic Hordes are the deadly Plaguebearers of Nurgle. Nurgle armies also benefit from being the only Chaos power to have models representing Daemonic Swarms in the range – Nurglings. Nurgle armies also benefit from the Beasts of Nurgle ridden by Plaguebearers, also released this month. There's no models for Daemonic Chariots yet, but the Beasts of Nurgle, Plaguebearer units and regular Chaos chariots

should provide plenty of conversion opportunity to modellers. See the article in issue 2 of Fanatic magazine for some ideas.

Of course, there's nothing to stop you converting models to represent some of the units which don't appear in the model range for Nurgle Daemons. Vile plaugeridden zombie dogs would make fine Daemonic Hounds for Old Papa Nurgle, for instance. Cavalry and flyers are harder for Nurgle, and you might, quite legitimately, choose to miss these out of a Nurgle army simply for not keeping with Nurgle's theme. That said, flyers are an important part of the army, and rather than simply take the soft option and include Screamer of Tzeentch in an otherwise Nurgle army, you could think about using units of Furies instead (unaligned Daemons, so a little less incongruous when placed alongside Nurgle armies). Alternatively, flocks of rotten, maggot-ridden birds (perhaps based on carrion models) ridden by Plaguebearers would make quite characterful Nurgle flyers.



The Hordes of Nurgle



*Above (left to right): Daemon Prince of Nurgle, Beasts of Nurgle, Great Unclean One
Below (left to right): Plaguebearers, Nurglings.*



Nurgle Daemons in Other Armies

Sometimes a mortal or beast army of Chaos will earn such favour from their patron deity that they will be rewarded with the services of a handful of their chosen god's most deadly of followers – the Daemons of Chaos. Because of this, you can easily include a few units of Nurgle Daemons in mortal (Chaos Warrior) or Beastman armies, as alternative models representing units chosen from the army list in the usual manner. For example, in a Chaos Warrior army, you could replace a few of the Chaos Warrior units with Plaguebearers or replace a few units of Chaos Knights with Beasts of Nurgle, while a powerful character such as a hero or sorcerer on a Chaos Dragon can easily be represented by a Greater Daemon of Nurgle model. In this way, you can give a real 'Hordes of Chaos' appearance to your army, without needing to stray outside the boundaries of the official army lists.

Other Units in Nurgle Daemon Armies

Just as other Chaos armies can quite cheerfully include a unit or two of Daemons, there are other devotees of Nurgle that you might like to include in your Daemonic Legion of Nurgle, again to enhance that 'Hordes of Chaos' feel about the army.

Mortal followers of Chaos will from time to time band with Daemonic Hordes, no doubt seeking to further their favour with their patron god by allying themselves more closely with his own chosen followers, the Daemons. Units of Chaos Warriors, Marauders or Knights devoted to Nurgle could easily be included on this basis. Keep in mind, though, that few mortal men would dare accompany the Daemonic Legions to war, and only the most devoted followers will be tolerated in the ranks, so just using regular Chaos Knights or Warriors pinched from your Chaos army isn't really in the spirit of things – far better to convert some units specially, Warriors, Knights and Marauders marked utterly by Nurgle, intestines hanging out, covered in pustules and hives, wreaking of decay.

Nurgle has his followers amongst the Beasts of Chaos, too – the so-called Festigors. As with the Warriors, converting a few units of Beastmen to reflect their absolute devotion to Nurgle is an ideal modelling project to compliment an army of Nurgle Daemons. Simply painting a unit of Beastmen green, however, is perhaps a rather lazy way of adding units to your army.