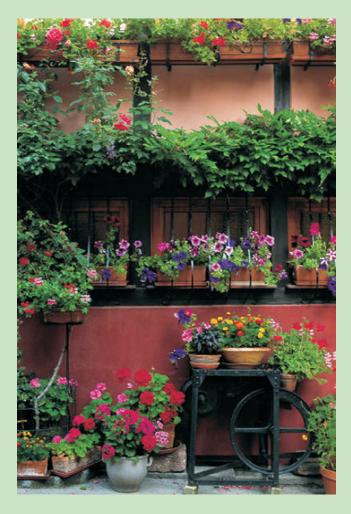
Common Plants

What's Poisonous and What's Not?













Leaves 3 Bulbs 3 Seeds 3 Berries

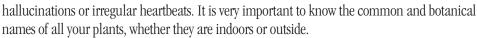




Common Plants

What's Poisonous and What's Not?

Many common plants found in the house or outdoors in the garden, woods and fields can cause problems if eaten, or after skin and eye contact. Some can be quite irritating, while others can cause stomach upset, skin rashes,



You can use this list as an aid to avoid buying plants that could be a problem if you have children or even pets that may want to sample. For your family's safety, this list includes many common plants, and includes both poisonous and non-poisonous varieties, but *if a plant is not listed don't assume that it is not poisonous*. Remember that small children have unlimited curiosity, so plants need to be well out of climbing reach. Also remember that even if a plant seems harmless to humans, this may not be so for pets, so always check out plant exposures with a veterinarian.

If you have reason to believe that someone has eaten or had skin or eye contact with a problem plant, **call the poison center immediately at 1-800-222-1222**, 24 hours/day, for prompt advice and professional treatment recommendations. It is also important to know that some parts of plants can be harmless, while other parts could be a problem, so knowing which part of the plant was involved is quite helpful. If you are interested in buying a plant and it is not on this list, call the poison center before bringing it home and ask if it is a problem plant.

Plant Guidelines

- Do NOT eat any part of a plant you don't recognize as edible
- Do NOT chew on items made from imported beans or seeds
- Do NOT make teas or brews from plants you do not know
- Make sure children understand and follow these rules
- If a person needs medical care, take along a large sample of the plant in a brown paper bag. To help with identification, include the leaves, fruit, flowers, and any other parts
- Trogram the poison center phone number into your cell and home phones
- Remember that the poison center can be useful to rule out potentially toxic plants before they are purchased or exposures occur



Name of Plant	Toxic part(s)	Symptoms
Acorn	Raw nuts in large	Thirst, stomach pain possible
	quantities	
African violet	Non-toxic	
Aloe vera	Sap in large quantities	Diarrhea possible
Aluminum plant	Non-toxic	
Alyssum	Non-toxic	
Amaryllis	Bulb	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
Angel's trumpet	All parts	Nausea, vomiting, dry warm skin and mouth, delirium
Apple	Seeds in large quantities	Stomach pain, vomiting, breathing difficulties, rise in blood pressure with delayed symptoms possible
Apricot	Kernel in the pit, in large quantities	Same as apple
Artillery plant	Non-toxic	
Arrowhead vine	All parts	Burning irritation of mouth, throat and stomach which may be severe
Asparagus fern	All parts	Skin irritation possible
Aster, annual (Callistephus sp.)	Non-toxic	
Aster, perennial (Aster sp.)	Non-toxic	
Avocado	Seeds, leaves, bark	Toxic to birds and other animals
Azalea (Rhododendron sp.)	All parts	Vomiting, diarrhea, muscle weakness, drowsiness, headache
Baby's breath	Non-toxic	
Baneberry	Roots, berries	Pain and swelling of mouth and throat, severe stomach pain, headache, dizziness, bloody diarrhea and urine, hallucinations, rise in heart rate
Barberry	Roots	Burning sensation of mouth and skin, nausea and vomiting
Begonia	Non-toxic	
Bittersweet (Solanum sp.)	All parts except ripe fruit	See nightshade

Name of Plant	Toxic part(s)	Symptoms
Bittersweet	All parts	Vomiting, diarrhea, chills possible
(Celestrus sp.)		
Blue cohosh	Roots, leaves,	Severe stomach pain, salivation, nausea,
	seeds	vomiting, headache, fever, skin irritation
Blueflag iris	Root, possibly leaves	See iris
Boston fern	Non-toxic	
Braken fern	All parts	Toxic to cattle, cancer-causing if chronic human ingestion
Bridal wreath	Non-toxic	
Buckthorn	Berries, bark, roots	Nausea, stomach cramps, watery or bloody diarrhea, dizziness
Burning bush (Euonymus sp.)	Bark	Vomiting, diarrhea
Burro's tail	Non-toxic	
Cactus	Spines	Mechanical irritation and pain
Caladium	All parts	Same as dieffenbachia
Calla lily	All parts	Same as arrowhead vine
Canna lily	Non-toxic	
Carnation	Leaves	Mouth and skin irritation possible
Castor bean	All parts, especially seeds	Mouth and stomach pain, diarrhea, bleeding, kidney failure, seizures, death
Cherry	Kernel in the pit, in large quantities	Same as apple
Chinese evergreen	Non-toxic	
Chinese lantern (Physalis sp.)	All parts except ripe fruit	Same as nightshade
Choke cherry	Kernel in the pit, in large quantities	Same as apple
Christmas cactus	Non-toxic	
Christmas tree	Needles, sap	Mechanical obstruction, skin and eye irritation (sap)
Chrysanthemum	Flower heads, possibly leaves	Skin irritation, itching, sneezing, runny nose, nausea, vomiting, numbness of lips and tongue
Cocoa bean mulch	Shells	Toxic to dogs
Coleus	Non-toxic	

Name of Plant	Toxic part(s)	Symptoms
Corn plant	Non-toxic	
Cotoneaster	Non-toxic	
Crabapple	Seeds in large quantities	Same as apple
Crocus (Spring-blooming)	Non-toxic	
Croton	Non-toxic	
Daffodil	All parts	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, skin irritation
Dandelion	Non-toxic	
Daphne	All parts	Burning irritation of mouth, throat and stomach, salivation, swollen lips, vomiting, diarrhea, skin irritation, kidney damage possible
Day lily	Non-toxic	
Death camas	Bulb, flowers	Burning irritation of mouth, vomiting, diarrhea, headache, dizziness
Delphinium	All parts, especially seeds	Burning irritation of mouth and throat, nausea, vomiting, nervousness, skin irritation
Devil's Ivy	All parts	Same as arrowhead vine
Dieffenbachia	All parts	Irritation, swelling and pain of mouth, lips, and throat. Skin irritation may be severe. May block breathing or swallowing.
Digitalis	All parts	Stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhea, confusion,
		irregular heartbeat
Dogbane	All parts	
Dogbane Donkey tail	·	irregular heartbeat Stomach pain, rise in blood pressure, irregular
	All parts	irregular heartbeat Stomach pain, rise in blood pressure, irregular heartbeat
Donkey tail	All parts Non-toxic	irregular heartbeat Stomach pain, rise in blood pressure, irregular heartbeat See burro's tail
Donkey tail Dracaena	All parts Non-toxic Non-toxic	irregular heartbeat Stomach pain, rise in blood pressure, irregular heartbeat See burro's tail Toxic to cats
Donkey tail Dracaena Dumbcane	All parts Non-toxic Non-toxic All parts	irregular heartbeat Stomach pain, rise in blood pressure, irregular heartbeat See burro's tail Toxic to cats See dieffenbachia
Donkey tail Dracaena Dumbcane Easter cactus	All parts Non-toxic Non-toxic All parts Non-toxic	irregular heartbeat Stomach pain, rise in blood pressure, irregular heartbeat See burro's tail Toxic to cats See dieffenbachia Same as Christmas cactus
Donkey tail Dracaena Dumbcane Easter cactus Easter lily	All parts Non-toxic Non-toxic All parts Non-toxic Non-toxic All parts except ripe, (cooked?)	irregular heartbeat Stomach pain, rise in blood pressure, irregular heartbeat See burro's tail Toxic to cats See dieffenbachia Same as Christmas cactus Toxic to cats Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, dizziness, caution

Name of Plant	Toxic part(s)	Symptoms
False aralia	Non-toxic	
False Solomon's seal	Non-toxic	
Ficus	Leaves	Mouth and skin irritation possible from sap
Fittonia	Non-toxic	
Forsythia	Non-toxic	
Foxglove	All parts	See digitalis
Fuchsia	Non-toxic	
Garlic	?	Potentially toxic to dogs
Geranium	All parts	Skin irritation possible
Gladiolus	Bulb	Nausea, vomiting, skin irritation
Gold-dust plant	Non-toxic	
Golden seal	Roots	Mouth and skin irritation, nausea, vomiting
Grape hyacinth	Non-toxic	
Grape ivy	Non-toxic	
Hawaiian ti	Non-toxic	
Hemlock, poison (Conium sp.)	All parts (often mistaken for parsley)	Nausea, vomiting, mouth and throat irritation, dizziness, seizures
Hemlock, water (Cicuta sp.)	All parts, especially roots	Nausea, salivation, diarrhea, fever, delirium, dilated pupils, seizures
Hens and chicks	Non-toxic	
High bush cranberry (Viburnum sp.)	Non-toxic	
Hindu rope plant	Non-toxic	
Hibiscus	Non-toxic	
Holly	Berries in large quantities	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea possible
Honeysuckle	Non-toxic	
Horse chestnut (Aesculus sp.)	Young sprouts, nuts	Mouth irritation, vomiting, diarrhea. See also sweet chestnut
Hosta	Non-toxic	
Hoya	Non-toxic	
Hyacinth	Bulb	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, skin irritation

Name of Plant	Toxic part(s)	Symptoms
Hydrangea	Buds, leaves	Stomach pain, vomiting, dizziness, headache, breathing difficulties, delayed symptoms possible
Impatiens	Non-toxic	
Iris	Root, possibly leaves	Burning irritation of mouth and throat, vomiting, diarrhea
Jack-in-the-pulpit	All parts	Same as dieffenbachia
Jade plant	Non-toxic	
Japanese lantern (Physalis sp.)	All parts except ripe fruit	Same as nightshade
Jerusalem cherry	Leaves, unripe fruit	Same as nightshade
Juniper	Leaves	Skin irritation, may be severe
Kalanchoe	Non-toxic	
Lantana	All parts, especially unripe fruit	Stomach upset, watery or bloody diarrhea, dilated pupils, muscle weakness, delayed symptoms possible
Larkspur	All parts	See delphinium
Lilac	Non-toxic	
Lily-of-the-valley	All parts	Same as digitalis
Lipstick plant	Non-toxic	
Locust, black (Robinia sp.)	All parts except flowers	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, weakness
Locust, honey (Gleditsia sp.)	Non-toxic	
Maple tree	Non-toxic	
Marigold	Non-toxic	
Mayapple	All parts except ripe fruit	Stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhea, skin irritation
Milkweed	All parts	Stomach irritation, diarrhea, weakness, loss of appetite
Mistletoe, American	All parts	Vomiting, diarrhea possible
Monkshood	All parts	Nausea, burning irritation of mouth and skin, vomiting, difficulty speaking and swallowing, dizziness
Monstera	All parts	Same as dieffenbachia

Name of Plant	Toxic part(s)	Symptoms
Moonflower	All parts	Same as angel's trumpet
Morning glory	Seeds	Confusion, lack of coordination, blurred vision, hallucinations
Moses-in-the- cradle	Sap	Skin irritation
Mother-in- law-tongue (Dieffenbachia sp.)	All parts	See dieffenbachia
Mother-in-law- tongue (Sanseveria sp.)	Non-toxic	
Mountain ash	Non-toxic	
Mulberry	Non-toxic	
Narcissus	Bulb	See daffodil
Nightshade (Solanum sp.)	All parts except ripe fruit	Stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhea, delayed symptoms possible
Norfolk Island pine	Non-toxic	
Oleander	All parts	Same as digitalis
Onion	??	Potentially toxic to dogs
Orchid	Non-toxic	
Ornamental pepper (Capsicum sp.)	Fruit, seeds	Mouth, throat, skin irritation, possibly severe
Palm	Non-toxic	
Panda plant	Non-toxic	
Pansy	Non-toxic	
Peace lily	All parts	Same as arrowhead vine
Peach	Kernel in the pit, in large quantities	Same as apple
Peony	Roots, flowers, seeds	Skin irritation, nausea, stomach pain, diarrhea
Peperomia	Non-toxic	
Petunia	Non-toxic	
Philodendron	All parts	Same as dieffenbachia
Piggy-back plant	Non-toxic	
Pilea	Non-toxic	
Pin cherry	Kernel in the pit, in large quantities	Same as apple

Name of Plant	Toxic part(s)	Symptoms
Plum	Kernel in the pit, in large quantities	Same as apple
Poinsettia	Leaves, sap	Mouth and skin irritation
Poison ivy	All parts (even smoke from burning leaves)	Itching, rash, oozing sores, swelling of mouth and throat, fever
Poison oak	All parts	Same as poison ivy
Poison sumac	All parts	Same as poison ivy
Pothos	All parts	Same as dieffenbachia
Prayer plant	Non-toxic	
Privet	All parts	Stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhea
Purple passion	Non-toxic	
Queen Anne's lace	Leaves, flowers	Sun-induced skin irritation. Same as wild parsnip
Rhododendron	All parts	See azalea
Rhubarb	Leaves in large quantities	Mouth and skin irritation, kidney damage possible
Rose	Non-toxic	
Rubber plant	Sap	Mouth and skin irritation
Sanseveria	Non-toxic	
Schefflera	Non-toxic	
Sedum	Non-toxic	
Shamrock	All parts	Same as arrowhead vine
Snapdragon	Non-toxic	
Snowberry	Fruit	Vomiting, diarrhea, drowsiness, dizziness
Snow-on-the- mountain	All parts	Sap causes skin rash, blisters, mouth, throat and stomach irritation
Solomon's seal	Fruit	Stomach irritation possible
Spider plant	Non-toxic	
Spurges (All species)	All parts	Same as snow-on-the-mountain
Stinging nettle	All parts	Skin burning, irritation
Strawberry begonia	Non-toxic	
Swedish ivy	Non-toxic	

Name of Plant	Toxic part(s)	Symptoms
Sweet pea	All parts	Cramps, loss of sensation, paralysis. Symptoms delayed, usually chronic or large ingestion
Thanksgiving cactus	Non-toxic	Same as Christmas cactus
Tulip	Bulb	Mouth and skin irritation
Umbrella plant (Cyperus sp.)	All parts	Diarrhea, kidney damage possible if chronic ingestion
Umbrella tree (Brassaia sp.)	Non-toxic	
Violet (outdoors)	Non-toxic	
Virginia creeper	All parts	Mouth and skin irritation
Yucca	Non-toxic	
Wandering jew	Non-toxic	
Wax plant	Non-toxic	
Weeping fig	Sap	Mouth and skin irritation
Wild grape	Non-toxic	Check ID against Virginia creeper
Wild parsnip	All parts	Severe, progressive skin irritation with blister formation, worsening with exposure to sunlight
Wisteria	All parts	Mouth, throat and skin irritation, stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhea
Yew, American (Taxus sp.)	All parts except red fleshy cup around the seed	Vomiting, dizziness, trembling, dry mouth, stomach pain, rash, weakness
Yew, English (Taxus sp.)	All parts except red fleshy cup around the seed	Same as yew, American
Yew, Japanese (Taxus sp.)	All parts except red fleshy cup around the seed	Same as yew, American
Yew, Japanese (Podocarpus sp.)	Light blue berries, leaves	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
Zebra plant	Non-toxic	
Zinnia	Non-toxic	

Special Considerations for Pets and Plants

- If an animal is exposed to ANY poison, immediately call the **Pet Poison Hotline at** 1-800-213-6680 (there is a charge for this service)
- Nogs love to eat both indoor and outdoor plants
- Tats enjoy browsing on many indoor and outdoor plants too
- 🥞 Birds, small mammals and reptiles appreciate the dietary variety plants offer
- Large animals such as cattle and horses can be seriously poisoned by forage plants
- Troblem plants for animals include, but are not limited to, the following:

Avocado: Problems for birds, goats, cattle and horses

Braken fern: Toxic to cattle and horses, transfers into milk

Cocoa bean mulch: Toxic to dogs

Easter lily: Toxic to cats

Garlic: Problems for dogs and cats
Onions: Problems for dogs and cats

Philodendron: Toxic to cats and dogs (and other pets?)

Pothos: Toxic to cats and dogs (and other pets?)

Yew (Taxus sp): Toxic (fatal) to cattle, horses and dogs





"My Plant List"

9	Jot down plants not in this list and call the poison center for advice on their potential toxicity!





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