

## COMMON POISONOUS PLANTS

### HOUSE PLANTS

Plant	Toxic Part	Symptoms
<b>Hyacinth, Narcissus, Daffodil</b>	Bulbs	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea. May be fatal.
<b>Oleander</b>	Leaves, Branches	Extremely poisonous. Affects the heart, produces severe digestive upset and has caused death.
<b>Poinsettia</b>	Leaves	Fatal. One leaf can kill a child.
<b>Dieffenbachia (Dumb cane) Elephant ear</b>	All parts	Intense burning and irritation of the mouth and tongue. Death can occur if base of the tongue swells enough to block the air passage of the throat.
<b>Rosary pea, Castor bean</b>	Seeds	Fatal. A single rosary pea seed has caused death. One or two castor bean seeds are near the lethal dose for adults.
<b>Mistletoe</b>	Berries	Fatal. Both children and adults have died from eating the berries.

### FLOWER GARDEN PLANTS

<b>Larkspur</b>	Young plant, Seeds	Digestive upset, nervous excitement, depression. May be fatal.
<b>Monkshood</b>	Fleshy roots	Digestive upset and nervous excitement.
<b>Autumn crocus, Star-of-Bethlehem</b>	Bulbs	Vomiting and nervous excitement.
<b>Lily-of-the-valley</b>	Leaves, Flowers	Irregular heart beat and pulse, usually accompanied by digestive upset and mental confusion.
<b>Iris</b>	Underground stems	Severe, but not usually serious, digestive upset.
<b>Foxglove</b>	Leaves	One of the sources of the drug digitalis, used to stimulate the heart. In large amounts, the active principles cause dangerously irregular heartbeat and pulse, usually digestive upset and mental confusion. May be fatal.
<b>Bleeding heart (Dutchman's breeches)</b>	Foliage, Roots	May be poisonous in large amounts. Has proved fatal to cattle.

### VEGETABLE GARDEN PLANTS

<b>Rhubarb</b>	Leaf blade	Fatal. Large amounts of raw or cooked leaves can cause convulsions, coma, followed rapidly by death.
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### ORNAMENTAL PLANTS

<b>Daphne</b>	Berries	Fatal. A few berries can kill a child.
<b>Wisteria</b>	Seeds, Pods	Mild to severe digestive upset. Many children are poisoned by this plant.
<b>Golden chain</b>	Bean-like capsules in which the seeds are suspended	Severe poisoning. Excitement, staggering, convulsions and coma. May be fatal.

Plant	Toxic Part	Symptoms
<b>Laurels, Rhododendron, Azaleas</b>	All parts	Fatal. Produces nausea and vomiting, depression, difficult breathing, prostration and coma.
<b>Jessamine</b>	Berries	Fatal. Digestive disturbance and nervous symptoms.
<b>Lantana camara (red sage)</b>	Green berries	Fatal. Affects lungs, kidneys, heart and nervous system. Grows in the southern U.S. and in moderate climates.
<b>Yew</b>	Berries, Foliage	Fatal. Foliage more toxic than berries. Death is usually sudden without warning symptoms.

### TREES AND SHRUBS

<b>Wild and cultivated cherries</b>	Twigs, Foliage	Fatal. Contains a compound that releases cyanide when eaten. Gasping, excitement, and prostration are common symptoms that often appear within minutes.
<b>Oaks</b>	Foliage, Acorns	Affects kidneys gradually. Symptoms appear only after several days or weeks. Takes a large amount for poisoning. Children should not be allowed to chew on acorns.
<b>Elderberry</b>	Shoots, Leaves, Bark	Children have been poisoned by using pieces of the pithy stems for blowguns. Nausea and digestive upset.
<b>Black locust</b>	Bark, sprouts, foliage	Children have suffered nausea, weakness and depression after chewing the bark and seeds.

### PLANTS IN WOODED AREAS

<b>Jack-in-the-pulpit</b>	All parts, especially roots	Like dumb cane, contains small needle-like crystals of calcium oxalate that cause intense irritation and burning of the mouth and tongue.
<b>Moonseed</b>	Berries	Blue, purple color, resembling wild grapes. Contains a single seed. (True wild grapes contain several small seeds.) May be fatal.
<b>Mayapple</b>	Apple, foliage, roots	Contains at least 16 active toxic principles, primarily in the roots. Children often eat the apple with no ill effects, but several apples may cause diarrhea.

### PLANTS IN SWAMP OR MOIST AREAS

<b>Water hemlock</b>	All parts	Fatal. Violent and painful convulsions. A number of people have died from hemlock.
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### PLANTS IN FIELDS

<b>Buttercups</b>	All parts	Irritant juices may severely injure the digestive system.
<b>Nightshade</b>	All parts, especially the unripe berry	Fatal. Intense digestive disturbances and nervous symptoms.
<b>Poison hemlock</b>	All parts	Fatal. Resembles a large wild carrot. Used in ancient Greece to kill condemned prisoners.
<b>Jimson weed (thorn apple)</b>	All parts	Abnormal thirst, distorted sight, delirium, incoherence and coma. Common cause of poisoning. Has proved fatal.