

Chapter 8

TOXIC PLANTS

The plants included in this list have known physical or chemical properties that can be harmful to animals. The list is printed twice: alphabetically by scientific name and then by common name and may include the known hazard in the comments column. Some plants may be tolerated by some animal species but be hazardous to others. Additionally, some of these plants may be medicinal or benign in small quantities but become toxic with exposure over time or in larger quantities. Caution should be exercised when using any of these plants in or around animal enclosures or public areas where visitors may be able to throw plant material into exhibits. The expertise of available nutritionists, veterinarians and horticulturists should be used to minimize the risks of these potentially toxic plants.



Toxic Plants List – Scientific Name

GENUS	SPECIES	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS
Abies	species	Fir	
Acer	rubum	Red Maple	not recommended for horses
Achillea	millefolium	Yarrow	alkaloids
Aconitum	species	Monkshood	alkaloids; all parts are toxic. Ingestion can be fatal
Aesculus	hippocastanum	Horsechestnut	glycoside - mature nuts
Agave	species		glycoside, photosensitivity, saponin
Aglaonema	commutata	Pseudobracteatum, Treubii	
Ailanthus	altissima	Tree-of-Heaven	produces saponin & ailanthin
Allium	species	Onion	Respiratory
Aloe	species	Aloe	
Althaea	rosea	Hibiscus	
Amaranthus	species	Pigweed	nitrate, oxalates in large amounts
Amaryllis	species	Naked Lady, Belladonna Lily	alkaloids, bulb is poisonous
Andromeda	polifolia	Bog Rosemary	
Anemone	species	Windflower	causes digestive problems in sheep
Anthurium	species	Tailflower	
Anthyllis	species	Vetch	
Apium	graveolens	celery	nitrate
Apocynum	androsaemifolium	Spreading Dogbane	glycosides
Apocynum	cannabinum	Indian Hemp	glycosides
Aquilegia	species	Columbine	
Aralia	species	Devil's Walking Stick	
Atropa	belladonna	Deadly Nightshade	alkaloids
Artemisia	species	Wormwood	
Arum	palaestinum	Solomon's Lily	
Asclepias	verticillata	E. Whorled Milkweed, Milkweeds	resinoids, glycosides
Asparagus	edible	Edible Asparagus	uncooked young shoots and berries toxic
Asperula	species	Woodruff	
Aster	species	Michaelmas Daisy	
Astragalus	species	Locoweed	Aminoacetonitrile, causes birth defects
Barbarea	vulgaris	Yellow Rocket, Winter Cress	mustard oils, glucosides
Brassica	kaber	Charlock, Wild Mustard	mustard oils, glucosides
Brassica	oleracea	Cabbage	toxic if fed in excess (gastro irritant)
Brugmansia	species	Angel's Trumpets	all parts are toxic
Buddleia	species	Butterfly Bush	

Toxic Plants List – Scientific Name

GENUS	SPECIES	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS
Buxus	sempervirens	Boxwood	alkaloids
Caladium	species	Caladium	irritant juices
Calla	palustris	Wild Calla	
Calycanthus	species	Sweet Shrub	
Camassia	species	Camass	
Campanula	latifolia	Bellflower	
Campsis	radicans	Trumpet Vine	dermatitis
Carex	species	Sedge	flowers are spikes & can be hazardous
Catharanthus	species	Periwinkle	
Catharanthus	roesus	Madagascar Periwinkle	alkaloids, hallucinogenic
Ceanothus	species	Redroot	
Celastrus	scandens	Bittersweet	
Cephalanthus	occidentalis	Buttonbush	glycoside
Cercis	species	Redbud	
Cercocarpus	species	Mountain Mahogany	cyanide
Chenopodium	ambrosioides	Wormseed	terpene
Chenopodium	album	Lamb's Quarters	nitrate
Chionanthus	virginicus	White Fringetree	
Chrysanthemum	species	Mum	
Cicuta	maculata	Water Hemlock	higher alcohol; violently poisonous
Clematis	species	Vase Vine	vesicant sap
Coffea	species	Coffee	
Colocasia	species	Elephant's Ear	irritant juices
Conocybe	species	Mushrooms	hallucinogenic
Conium	maculatum	Poison Hemlock	alkaloids; all parts are poisonous
Convallaria	majalis	Lily-of-the-Valley	glycoside, foliage is poisonous
Convolvulus	species	Bind Weed, Morning Glory	seeds-LSD, vegetative-furocoumarins, nitrate
Cornus	mas	Cornelian Cherry	
Cornus	sanguinea	Blood-Twig Dogwood	
Coronilla	species	Vetch	
Corydalis	flavula		
Corydalis	vaginans		
Cotinus	species	Smoketree	
Cotyledon	species	Cotyledon	
Crataegus	species	Hawthorn	

Toxic Plants List – Scientific Name

GENUS	SPECIES	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS
Crinum	species	Spider Lily	
Crocus	species	Crocus	
Crotalaria	agatiflora	Rattlebox	toxic seeds
Croton	species	Croton	irritant oil
Cryptostegia	species	Rubber Vine	
Cupressocyparis	leylandii	Leyland Cypress	
Cycad	species	Palms	
Cycas	species	Funeral Palm	
Cyclamen	species	Cyclamen	tuber is toxic
Cyperus	alternifolia		may cause renal disease
Cytisus	species	Broom	
Dactylis	glomerata	Orchard Grass	
Danthonia	species	Wild Oatgrass	source of "foxtails"
Daphne	species	Daphne, Spurge Laurel	glycoside
Datura	stramonium	Jimsonweed	alkaloids
Daucus	carota	Wild Carrot	nitrate
Delphinium	species	Delphinium, Larkspur	alkaloids
Dianthus	caryophyllus	Carnation	
Dianthus	chinensis	Rainbow	
Dianthus	plumarius	Cottage Plume	
Dicentra	species	Bleeding Hearts	
Dieffenbachia	species	Dumbcane	oxalates; ok for herps and birds
Digitalis	purpurea	Foxglove	glycoside, all of plant is poisonous
Dimorphotheca	species	Cape Marigold	
Dioscorea	species	True Yams	
Doronicum	species	Leopard's-Bane	
Elymus	species	Wild Rye	
Equisetum	species	Horsetail	thiaminase
Erica	species	Heath	
Eriobotra	japonica	Loquat	seeds and leaves are toxic
Erodium	circutarium	Filaree	photosensitivity
Eschscholzia	species	California Poppy	
Eucalyptus	species	Eucalyptus	cyanide
Euonymus	species	Spindle Tree	
Eupatorium	rugosum	White Snakeroot	tremetol

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GENUS	SPECIES	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS
Euphorbia	species	Flowering Spurge	irritant sap
Fagopyrum	species	Buckwheat	fagopyrin, photosensitivity
Fagus	species	Beech	
Forsythia	species	Golden-Bells	
Fraxinus	species	Ash	
Fritillaria	species	Fritillary	
Galium	odoratum	Sweet Woodruff	
Genista	species	Broom	
Geranium	species	Cranesbill	
Gladiolus	species	Sword Lily	bulb is toxic
Glaucium	species	Horned Poppy	
Glechoma	hederacea	Ground Ivy	volatile oils
Gloriosa	species	Gloriosa Lily	
Gymnocladus	dioica	Kentucky Coffee Tree	
Gypsophila	paniculata	Baby's Breath	
Haemanthus	species	Blood Lily	
Hedera	helix	English Ivy	glycoside/saponin
Helichrysum	apiculatum	Everlasting	
Heliotropium	species	Heliotrope	
Helleborus	species	Hellebore	all parts are very poisonous
Heteromeles	arbutifolia	Christmas Berry	cyanide
Hibiscus	syriacus	Rose-of-Sharon	
Hippeastrum	species	Amaryllis	bulb is toxic
Holcus	lanatus	Velvet Grass	cyanide
Hordeum	jubatum	Foxtail Grass	wiry bristles; abscesses; necrosis
Hoya	australis	Wax Vine	
Hyacinthella	species	Hyacinthella	
Hyacinthus	species	Hyacinth	
Hyacinthus	orientalis	Hyacinth	plant causes purgation
Hydrangea	species	Hydrangea	cyanide
Hypericum	species	St. Johnswort	hypericin, photosensitivity
Hyoscyamus	niger	Henbane	alkaloids
Ilex	species	Holly	leaves and especially berries
Indigofera	species	Indigo	
Ipomoea	species	Morning-Glory	hallucinogenic

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GENUS	SPECIES	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS
Iris	species	Flag	irritant, bulbs and rhizomes are poisonous
Jasminum	nudiflorum	Jasmine	oils can cause dermatitis in humans
Juglans	nigra	Black Walnut	
Juglans	regia	English Walnut	
Juniperus	species	Juniper	
Kalanchoe	species	Palm-Beach-Bells	
Kalmia	species	Mountain Laurel	andromedotoxin; foliage is poisonous
Kochia	scoparia	Burning Bush	nitrate accumulator
Koelreuteria	paniculata	Goldenrain Tree	
Laburnum	anagyroides	Golden Chain Tree	cytisine; all parts are poisonous
Lamium	species	Dead Nettle	
Lantana	species	Shrub Verbena	photosensitivity
Larix	species	Larch	
Lathyrus	species	Vetch, Wild Sweet Pea	lathyrism
Leucothoe	species	Leucothoe, Black Laurel, Mt. Laurel	hydroquinones and resinoids, glycosides
Ligustrum	vulgare	Privet	
Lindera	benzoin	Spice Bush	
Linum	usitatissimum	Flax	cyanide
Lobelia	species	Lobelia	
Lonicera	species	Honeysuckle	
Lophophora	williamsii	Peyote Cactus, Mescal	hallucinogenic
Lunaria	annua	Money Plant	
Lupinus	species	Lupine	alkaloid, may cause birth defects
Lychnis	species	Catchfly	
Maclura	pomifera	Osage Orange	
Mahonia	species	Oregon Grapeholly	all parts toxic except fruit is edible
Malus	species	Apple and Crabapple	cyanogenic glycosides in seeds
Malva	species	Mallow	
Manihot	esculenta	Cassava, Tapioca	cyanide in bitter variety
Medicago	species	Clovers	photosensitivity at certain growth stages
Microcystis	species	Blue-green algae	photosensitivity
Myrica	species	Waxmyrtle & Bayberry	
Myristica	fragrans	Nutmeg	hallucinogenic
Nandina	domestica	Heavenly Bamboo	
Narcissus	species	Daffodil, narcissus, jonquil	bulb is toxic

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GENUS	SPECIES	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS
Nepenthes	species	Pitcher Plant	
Nepeta	species	Catmint	
Nerium	oleander	Oleander	glycosides, all of the plant is poisonous
Nicotiana	species	Nicotiana	nicotine, alkaloid, may cause birth defects
Nierembergia	hippomanica	Cupflower	
Nolina	texana	Bear Grass	photosensitivity
Nymphaea	species	Water Lily	
Opuntia	species	Prickley Pear	
Origanum	majorana	Sweet Marjoram	
Origanum	vulgare	Oregano	
Ornithogalum	species	Star-of-Bethlehem, Chinch Crinchee	cardiac glycosides, alkaloides, resins
Oxalis	species	Oxalis, Bermuda Buttercup	oxalates
Oxydendrum	arboreum	Sourwood	
Panicum	species	Switch Grass	nitrate accumulator
Papaver	species	Poppies	alkaloids
Parthenocissus	quinquefolia	Virginia Creeper	
Parthenocissus	tricuspidata	Boston Ivy	
Passiflora	species	Passionflower	
Pastinaca	sativa	Wild Parsnip	furocoumarins
Pelargonium	species	Geranium	
Pennisetum	alopecuriodes	Foxtail Grass	spikey flowers can mat hair
Penstemon	species	Beard-Tongue	
Periploca	graeca	Silk Vine	glycosides
Pernettya	species	Pernettya	
Petunia	species	Petunia	
Phalaris	species	Reed & Canary Grass	
Phaseolus	species	Bean	
Philadelphus	species	Mock Orange	fruit is highly toxic
Philodendron	species	Philodendron	irritant juices, oxalates; ok for herps and birds
Phlox	species	Phlox	
Pholiota	species	Mushrooms	hallucinogenic
Physalis	species	Ground Cherry	
Phytolacca	americana	Pokeweed	all parts are poisonous
Picea	abies	Norway Spruce	
Pieris	species	Japanese Pieris	andromedotoxin

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GENUS	SPECIES	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS
Pinus	species	Pine	
Pittosporum	species	Pittosporum	cyanide
Platanus	species	Sycamore	
Plumbago	species	Leadwort	
Podphyllum	peltatum	Mayapple	podophyllin
Polygonum	species	Mexican Bamboo, Knotweed	nitrate accumulator
Potentilla	species	Cinquefoil	
Primula	species	Primrose	
Prunus	species	Cherry, Peach, Plum, Almonds	cyanide in pits
Psilocybe	species	Mushrooms	hallucinogenic
Pteridium	aquilinum	Bracken Fern	thiaminase; carcinogenic
Pyrus	species	Pear	
Quercus	species	Oaks	tannin at 50% or more of the diet
Ranunculus	species	Buttercups	protoanemonin
Rhamnus	species	Buckthorn	
Rheum	species	Rhubarb	oxalates
Rhododendron	species	Rhododendron, Azalea	andromedotoxin
Rhodotypos	tetrapetala	Jetbead	cyanide
Ribes	species	Currant	
Ricinus	communis	Castor Bean	ricin
Robinia	pseudoacaia	Black Locust, False Acacia	robin, primarily the bark is poisonous
Rosa	species	Rose	spines possible hazard for some animals
Rosmarinus	officinalis	Rosemary	
Rudbeckia	hirta	Blackeyed Susan	
Rumex	species	Dock, Sorrel	oxalates
Ruta	graveolens	Rue	dermal irritant
Sambucus	callicarpa, pubens, racemosa	Elderberry	red berried species' fruit is toxic
Sanguinaria	species	Bloodroot	
Saponaria	officinalis	Soapwort	saponin
Sarcobatus	vermiculatus	Greasewood	oxalates
Sassafras	species	Sassafras	
Scillia	species	Squill	
Sedum	acre	Golden-Carpet Sedum	
Sedum	album	White Sedum	
Senecio	jacobaea	Stinking Willie, Groundsel	alkaloids; poisonous to livestock

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GENUS	SPECIES	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS
Setaria	lutescens	Yellow Bristle Grass	wiry bristles
Silybum	marianum	Milk Thistle	nitrates
Skimmia	species	Skimmia	
Solanum	species	Nightshade, Jerusalem Cherry, Potato	solanine; gastroenteritis
Solidago	species	Goldenrod	
Sophora	species	Japanese Pagodatree	
Sorbus	sitchensis	Sitka Mountain Ash	berries are toxic
Strelitza	species	Bird-of-Paradise	
Sorghum	species	Johnson grass, Sudan grass, millet	cyanide, aminoacetonitrile, nitrates
Spathiphyllum	species	Spathe Flower	
Stachys	species	Hedge Nettle	
Strophanthus	species	Quabain	glycosides
Taxus	species	Yew	taxine
Tetradymia	glabrata	Horse Brush	photosensitivity
Thalictrum	species	Meadow Rue	
Themedra	australis		
Thuja	species	Arborvitae	
Trachymene	cyanantha	Wild Parsnip	may cause birth defects in sheep
Tradescantia	species	Spiderwort	
Tribulus	terrestris	Puncture Vine	photosensitivity
Trifolium	species	Clovers	may use at <5% of mix
Triglochin	maritima	Arrow Grass	cyanide
Trillium	species	Wake-Robin	
Trollius	species	Globe Flower	
Tsuga	canadensis	Canadian Hemlock	cyanide
Tulipa	species	Tulip	bulb is poisonous
Typha	latifolia	Cattail	
Ulmus	species	Elm	
Umbellularia	californica	Oregon Myrtle	leaves contain irritating/toxic oils
Veratrum	californium	Corn Lily	may cause birth defects in sheep
Veratrum	viride	False Hellebore	alkaloids
Verbena	species	Vervain	
Veronica	species	Speedwell	
Viburnum	lantana	Wayfaringtree Viburnum	
Viburnum	opulus	Cranberry Bush Viburnum	

Toxic Plants List – Scientific Name

GENUS	SPECIES	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS
Viburnum	prunifolium	Blackhaw Viburnum	
Viburnum	rhytidophyllum	Leatherleaf Viburnum	
Viburnum	tinus	Laurustinus	
Vicia	species	Vetch	
Vinca	species	periwinkle	
Viola	species	Violet	
Viscum	album	Mistletoe	
Wisteria	species	Wisteria	
Xanthium	species	Cocklebur	hydroquinone
Zantedeschia	species	Calla Lily	
Zanthorhiza	americanum	Prickly-ash	

Toxic Plant List compiled by Lee Houts,
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 Association of Zoological Horticulture (AZH)

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COMMON NAME	GENUS	SPECIES	COMMENTS
Aloe	Aloe	species	
Amaryllis	Hippeastrum	species	bulb is toxic
Angel's Trumpets	Brugmansia	species	all parts are toxic
Apple and Crabapple	Malus	species	cyanogenic glycosides in seeds
Arborvitae	Thuja	species	
Arrow Grass	Triglochin	maritima	cyanide
Ash	Fraxinus	species	
Baby's Breath	Gypsophila	paniculata	
Bean	Phaseolus	species	
Bear Grass	Nolina	texana	photosensitivity
Beard-Tongue	Penstemon	species	
Beech	Fagus	species	
Bellflower	Campanula	latifolia	
Bind Weed, Morning Glory	Convolvulus	species	seeds-LSD, vegetative-furocoumarins, nitrates
Bird-of-Paradise	Strelitza	species	
Bittersweet	Celastrus	scandens	
Black Locust, False Acacia	Robinia	pseudoacacia	robin, primarily the bark is poisonous
Black Walnut	Juglans	nigra	
Blackeyed Susan	Rudbeckia	hirta	
Blackhaw Viburnum	Viburnum	prunifolium	
Bleeding Hearts	Dicentra	species	
Blood Lily	Haemanthus	species	
Bloodroot	Sanguinaria	species	
Blood-Twig Dogwood	Cornus	sanguinea	
Blue-green algae	Microcystis	species	photosensitivity
Bog Rosemary	Andromeda	polifolia	
Boston Ivy	Parthenocissus	tricuspidata	
Boxwood	Buxus	sempervirens	alkaloids
Bracken Fern	Pteridium	aquilinum	thiaminase; carcinogenic
Broom	Cytisus	species	
Broom	Genista	species	
Buckthorn	Rhamnus	species	
Buckwheat	Fagopyrum	species	fagopyrin, photosensitivity
Burning Bush	Kochia	scoparia	nitrate accumulator
Buttercups	Ranunculus	species	protoanemonin
Butterfly Bush	Buddleia	species	

Toxic Plants List – Common Name

COMMON NAME	GENUS	SPECIES	COMMENTS
Buttonbush	Cephalanthus	occidentalis	glycoside
Cabbage	Brassica	oleracea	toxic if fed in excess (gastrol irritant)
Caladium	Caladium	species	irritant juices
California Poppy	Eschscholzia	species	
Calla Lily	Zantedeschia	species	
Camass	Camassia	species	
Canadian Hemlock	Tsuga	canadensis	cyanide
Cape Marigold	Dimorphotheca	species	
Carnation	Dianthus	caryophyllus	
Cassava, Tapioca	Manihot	esculenta	cyanide in bitter variety
Castor Bean	Ricinus	communis	ricin
Catchfly	Lychnis	species	
Catmint	Nepeta	species	
Cattail	Typha	latifolia	
celery	Apium	graveolens	nitrates
Charlock, Wild Mustard	Brassica	kaber	mustard oils, glucosides
Cherry, Peach, Plum, Almonds	Prunus	species	cyanide in pits
Christmas Berry	Heteromeles	arbutifolia	cyanide
Cinquefoil	Potentilla	species	
Clovers	Medicago	species	photosensitivity at certain growth stages
Clovers	Trifolium	species	may use at <5% of mix
Cocklebur	Xanthium	species	hydroquinone
Coffee	Coffea	species	
Columbine	Aquilegia	species	
Corn Lily	Veratrum	californium	may cause birth defects in sheep
Cornelian Cherry	Cornus	mas	
Cottage Plume	Dianthus	plumarius	
Cotyledon	Cotyledon	species	
Cranberry Bush Viburnum	Viburnum	opulus	
Cranesbill	Geranium	species	
Crocus	Crocus	species	
Croton	Croton	species	irritant oil
Cupflower	Nierembergia	hippomantica	
Currant	Ribes	species	
Cyclamen	Cyclamen	species	tuber is toxic

Toxic Plants List – Common Name

COMMON NAME	GENUS	SPECIES	COMMENTS
Daffodil, narcissus, jonquil	Narcissus	species	bulb is toxic
Daphne, Spurge Laurel	Daphne	species	glycoside
Dead Nettle	Lamium	species	
Deadly Nightshade	Atropa	belladonna	alkaloids
Delphinium, Larkspur	Delphinium	species	alkaloids
Devil's Walking Stick	Aralia	species	
Dock, Sorrel	Rumex	species	oxalates
Dumbcane	Dieffenbachia	species	oxalates; ok for herps and birds
E. Whorled Milkweed, Milkweeds	Asclepias	verticillata	resinoids, glycosides
Edible Asparagus	Asparagus	edible	uncooked young shoots and berries toxic
Elderberry	Sambucus	callicarpa,pubens,racemosa	red berried species' fruit is toxic
Elephant's Ear	Colocasia	species	irritant juices
Elm	Ulmus	species	
English Ivy	Hedera	helix	glycoside/saponin
English Walnut	Juglans	regia	
Eucalyptus	Eucalyptus	species	cyanide
Everlasting	Helichrysum	apiculatum	
False Hellebore	Veratrum	viride	alkaloids
Filaree	Erodium	circutarium	photosensitivity
Fir	Abies	species	
Flag	Iris	species	irritant, bulbs and rhizomes are poisonous
Flax	Linum	usitatissimum	cyanide
Flowering Spurge	Euphorbia	species	irritant sap
Foxglove	Digitalis	purpurea	glycoside, all of plant is poisonous
Foxtail Grass	Hordeum	jubatum	wiry bristles; abcesses; necrosis
Foxtail Grass	Pennisetum	alopecuriodes	spikey flowers can mat hair
Fritillary	Fritillaria	species	
Funeral Palm	Cycas	species	
Geranium	Pelargonium	species	
Globe Flower	Trollius	species	
Gloriosa Lily	Gloriosa	species	
Golden Chain Tree	Laburnum	anagyroides	cytisine; all parts are poisonous
Golden-Bells	Forsythia	species	
Golden-Carpet Sedum	Sedum	acre	
Goldenrain Tree	Koelreuteria	paniculata	

Toxic Plants List – Common Name

COMMON NAME	GENUS	SPECIES	COMMENTS
Goldenrod	Solidago	species	
Greasewood	Sarcobatus	vermiculatus	oxalates
Ground Cherry	Physalis	species	
Ground Ivy	Glechoma	hederacea	volatile oils
Hawthorn	Crataegus	species	
Heath	Erica	species	
Heavenly Bamboo	Nandina	domestica	
Hedge Nettle	Stachys	species	
Heliotrope	Heliotropium	species	
Hellebore	Helleborus	species	all parts are very poisonous
Henbane	Hyoscyamus	niger	alkaloids
Hibiscus	Althaea	rosea	
Holly	Ilex	species	leaves and especially berries
Honeysuckle	Lonicera	species	
Horned Poppy	Glaucium	species	
Horse Brush	Tetradymia	glabrata	photosensitivity
Horsechestnut	Aesculus	hippocastanum	glycoside - mature nuts
Horsetail	Equisetum	species	thiaminase
Hyacinth	Hyacinthus	species	
Hyacinth	Hyacinthus	orientalis	plant causes purgation
Hyacinthella	Hyacinthella	species	
Hydrangea	Hydrangea	species	cyanide
Indian Hemp	Apocynum	cannabinum	glycosides
Indigo	Indigofera	species	
Japanese Pagodatree	Sophora	species	
Japanese Pieris	Pieris	species	andromedotoxin
Jasmine	Jasminum	nudiflorum	oils can cause dermatitis in humans
Jetbead	Rhodotypos	tetrapetala	cyanide
Jimsonweed	Datura	stramonium	alkaloids
Johnson grass, Sudan grass, millet	Sorghum	species	cyanide, aminoacetonitrile, nitrates
Juniper	Juniperus	species	
Kentucky Coffee Tree	Gymnocladus	dioica	
Lamb's Quarters	Chenopodium	album	nitrates
Larch	Larix	species	
Laurustinus	Viburnum	tinus	

Toxic Plants List – Common Name

COMMON NAME	GENUS	SPECIES	COMMENTS
Leadwort	Plumbago	species	
Leatherleaf Viburnum	Viburnum	rhytidophyllum	
Leopard's-Bane	Doronicum	species	
Leucothoe, Black Laurel, Mt. Laurel	Leucothoe	species	hydroquinones and resinoids, glycosides
Leyland Cypress	Cupressocyparis	leylandii	
Lily-of-the-Valley	Convallaria	majalis	glycoside, foliage is poisonous
Lobelia	Lobelia	species	
Locoweed	Astragalus	species	Aminoacetonitrile, causes birth defects
Loquat	Eriobotra	japonica	seeds and leaves are toxic
Lupine	Lupinus	species	alkaloid, may cause birth defects
Madagascar Periwinkle	Catharanthus	roesus	alkaloides, hallucinogenic
Mallow	Malva	species	
Mayapple	Podophyllum	peltatum	podophyllin
Meadow Rue	Thalictrum	species	
Mexican Bamboo, Knotweed	Polygonum	species	nitrate accumulator
Michaelmas Daisy	Aster	species	
Milk Thistle	Silybum	marianum	nitrates
Mistletoe	Viscum	album	
Mock Orange	Philadelphus	species	fruit is highly toxic
Money Plant	Lunaria	annua	
Monkshood	Aconitum	species	alkaloids; all parts are toxic. Ingestion can be fatal
Morning-Glory	Ipomoea	species	hallucinogenic
Mountain Laurel	Kalmia	species	andromedotoxin; foliage is poisonous
Mountain Mahogany	Cercocarpus	species	cyanide
Mum	Chrysanthemum	species	
Mushrooms	Conocybe	species	hallucinogenic
Mushrooms	Pholiota	species	hallucinogenic
Mushrooms	Psilocybe	species	hallucinogenic
Naked Lady, Belladonna Lily	Amaryllis	species	alkaloids, bulb is poisonous
Nicotiana	Nicotiana	species	nicotine, alkaloid, may cause birth defects
Nightshade, Jerusalem Cherry, Potato	Solanum	species	solanine; gastroenteritis
Norway Spruce	Picea	abies	
Nutmeg	Myristica	fragrans	hallucinogenic
Oaks	Quercus	species	tannin at 50% or more of the diet
Oleander	Nerium	oleander	glycosides, all of the plant is poisonous

Toxic Plants List – Common Name

COMMON NAME	GENUS	SPECIES	COMMENTS
Onion	Allium	species	Respiratory
Orchard Grass	Dactylis	glomerata	
Oregano	Origanum	vulgare	
Oregon Grapeholly	Mahonia	species	all parts toxic except fruit is edible
Oregon Myrtle	Umbellularia	californica	leaves contain irritating/toxic oils
Osage Orange	Maclura	pomifera	
Oxalis, Bermuda Buttercup	Oxalis	species	oxalates
Palm-Beach-Bells	Kalanchoe	species	
Palms	Cycad	species	
Passionflower	Passiflora	species	
Pear	Pyrus	species	
Periwinkle	Catharanthus	species	
periwinkle	Vinca	species	
Pernettya	Pernettya	species	
Petunia	Petunia	species	
Peyote Cactus, Mescal	Lophophora	williamsii	hallucinogenic
Philodendron	Philodendron	species	irritant juices, oxalates; ok for herps and birds
Phlox	Phlox	species	
Pigweed	Amaranthus	species	nitrates, oxalates in large amounts
Pine	Pinus	species	
Pitcher Plant	Nepenthes	species	
Pittosporum	Pittosporum	species	cyanide
Poison Hemlock	Conium	maculatum	alkaloids; all parts are poisonous
Pokeweed	Phytolacca	americana	all parts are poisonous
Poppies	Papaver	species	alkaloids
Prickley Pear	Opuntia	species	
Prickly-ash	Zanthorhiza	americanum	
Primrose	Primula	species	
Privet	Ligustrum	vulgare	
Pseudobracteatum, Treubii	Aglaonema	commutata	
Puncture Vine	Tribulus	terrestris	photosensitivity
Quabain	Strophanthus	species	glycosides
Rainbow	Dianthus	chinensis	
Rattlebox	Crotalaria	agatiflora	toxic seeds
Red Maple	Acer	rubum	not recommended for horses

Toxic Plants List – Common Name

COMMON NAME	GENUS	SPECIES	COMMENTS
Redbud	Cercis	species	
Redroot	Ceanothus	species	
Reed & Canary Grass	Phalaris	species	
Rhododendron, Azalea	Rhododendron	species	andromedotoxin
Rhubarb	Rheum	species	oxalates
Rose	Rosa	species	spines possible hazard for some animals
Rosemary	Rosmarinus	officinalis	
Rose-of-Sharon	Hibiscus	syriacus	
Rubber Vine	Cryptostegia	species	
Rue	Ruta	graveolens	dermal irritant
Sassafras	Sassafras	species	
Sedge	Carex	species	flowers are spikes & can be hazardous
Shrub Verbena	Lantana	species	photosensitivity
Silk Vine	Periploca	graeca	glycosides
Sitka Mountain Ash	Sorbus	sitchensis	berries are toxic
Skimmia	Skimmia	species	
Smoketree	Cotinus	species	
Soapwort	Saponaria	officinalis	saponin
Solomon's Lily	Arum	palaestinum	
Sourwood	Oxydendrum	arboreum	
Spathe Flower	Spathiphyllum	species	
Speedwell	Veronica	species	
Spice Bush	Lindera	benzoin	
Spider Lily	Crinum	species	
Spiderwort	Tradescantia	species	
Spindle Tree	Euonymus	species	
Spreading Dogbane	Apocynum	androsaemifolium	glycosides
Squill	Scillia	species	
St. Johnswort	Hypericum	species	hypericin, photosensitivity
Star-of-Bethlehem, Chinch Crinchee	Ornithogalum	species	cardiac glycosides, alkaloides, resins
Stinking Willie, Groundsel	Senecio	jacobaea	alkaloids; poisonous to livestock
Sweet Marjoram	Origanum	majorana	
Sweet Shrub	Calycanthus	species	
Sweet Woodruff	Galium	odoratum	
Switch Grass	Panicum	species	nitrate accumulator

Toxic Plants List – Common Name

COMMON NAME	GENUS	SPECIES	COMMENTS
Sword Lily	Gladiolus	species	bulb is toxic
Sycamore	Platanus	species	
Tailflower	Anthurium	species	
Tree-of-Heaven	Ailanthus	altissima	produces saponin & ailanthin
True Yams	Dioscorea	species	
Trumpet Vine	Campsis	radicans	dermatitis
Tulip	Tulipa	species	bulb is poisonous
Vase Vine	Clematis	species	vesicant sap
Velvet Grass	Holcus	lanatus	cyanide
Vervain	Verbena	species	
Vetch	Anthyllis	species	
Vetch	Coronilla	species	
Vetch	Vicia	species	
Vetch, Wild Sweet Pea	Lathyrus	species	lathyrism
Violet	Viola	species	
Virginia Creeper	Parthenocissus	quinquefolia	
Wake-Robin	Trillium	species	
Water Hemlock	Cicuta	maculata	higher alcohol; violently poisonous
Water Lily	Nymphaea	species	
Wax Vine	Hoya	australis	
Waxmyrtle & Bayberry	Myrica	species	
Wayfaringtree	Viburnum	lantana	
White Fringetree	Chionanthus	virginicus	
White Sedum	Sedum	album	
White Snakeroot	Eupatorium	rugosum	tremetol
Wild Calla	Calla	palustris	
Wild Carrot	Daucus	carota	nitrate
Wild Oatgrass	Danthonia	species	source of "foxtails"
Wild Parsnip	Pastinaca	sativa	furocoumarins
Wild Parsnip	Trachymene	cyanantha	may cause birth defects in sheep
Wild Rye	Elymus	species	
Windflower	Anemone	species	causes digestive problems in sheep
Wisteria	Wisteria	species	
Woodruff	Asperula	species	
Wormseed	Chenopodium	ambrosioides	terpene

Toxic Plants List – Common Name

COMMON NAME	GENUS	SPECIES	COMMENTS
Wormwood	Artemisia	species	
Yarrow	Achillea	millefolium	alkaloids
Yellow Bristle Grass	Setaria	lutescens	wiry bristles
Yellow Rocket, Winter Cress	Barbarea	vulgaris	mustard oils, glucosides
Yew	Taxus	species	taxine
	Agave	species	glycoside, photosensitivity, saponin
	Corydalis	flavula	
	Corydalis	vaginans	
	Cyperus	alternifolia	may cause renal disease
	Themeda	australis	

Toxic Plant List compiled by Lee Houts,
 Folsom City Zoo Sanctuary
 AAZK Enrichment Committee

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 (AZH)