

Common Plants and Their Toxicity

The following list covers common plants often encountered and questioned for toxicity. Plants are listed alphabetically by common name, followed by botanical names. Match the number following each plant with the toxicity rating descriptions below. If you have any questions or a plant is not included on this list, please call the Poison Center at 1-800-876-4766 or 1-800-8-POISON.

Note: In general, plants considered poisonous to humans are considered poisonous to animals. However, in some cases animals have been poisoned by plants considered safe for humans. Even if a plant is listed as having major toxicity, a very small amount ingested may not result in symptoms. Call the poison center before initiating any treatment. A plant listed as being non-toxic may still cause problems: if a child bites off a piece of the plant and it sticks to the throat, choking or gagging may result.

1. **Non-toxic:** Either these plants have proven non-poisonous or there is no record of a toxic exposure. Exposure to these plants is not expected to cause any symptoms.
2. **Oxalates:** The juice or sap of these plants contains oxalate crystals. Chewing these plants may cause pain and irritation of the mouth, lips, and tongue. Swelling of the throat may cause breathing difficulties.
3. **Minor toxicity:** Ingestion may cause some minor symptoms such as vomiting or diarrhea. Ingestions of small amounts may not cause any symptoms at all.
4. **Major toxicity:** Ingestion of these plants, especially in large amounts, is expected to cause serious effects to major organs such as the heart, liver or kidneys. If these plants are ingested call the Poison Control Center immediately.
5. **Dermatitis:** Exposure to juice or sap from the plant or a puncture would from the thorns may produce skin irritation or rash. Skin wounds from some plants can be extremely painful.
6. **Possibly toxic:** Although information about these plants is incomplete, ingestion of small amounts would not be expected to cause serious problems.
7. **Animal toxicity:** These plants are known to have caused problems in animals.

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Information provided from:
Regional Poison Control Center
University of California, Davis Medical Center
2315 Stockton Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95817
1-800-876-4766

Common Plants and Their Toxicity - UC Davis Medical Center Regional Poison Control Center

African Violet Saintpaulia	1	Jade Plant Crassula argentea	1
Agapanthus	3, 5	Jequerity Bean Arbus preicatorius	4
Agapanthus, Pink Nerine bowdenii	3, 7	Jerusalem Cherry Solanum pseudocapsicum	4
Albizzia	1	Jimson Weed Datura stramonium	4
Aloe Vera	3	Juniper Juniperus species	3, 5, 7
Aluminum Plant Pilea cadierei	1	Katanchoe	1
Alyssum	1	Lady Slipper Orchid Cypripedium	5
Amaryllis belladonna	3	Lantana camara	4, 7
Apple Tree Malus species	4, 7	Larkspur Delphinium species	4
Apricot Tree Prunus armeniaca	4, 7	Licorice Plant	
Aralia Japanese Fatsia japonica	1	Glycyrrhizian lepidata	4, 7
Arrowhead Vine Syngonium podophyllum	2	Lilac Syringa	1
Asparagus Fern Asparagus setaceus or sprengeri	1	Lily of the Nile Agapanthus africanus	5
Avocado Persea americana	6, 7	Lily of the Valley Convallaria species	4
Azalea Rhododendron occidentale	4	Lipstick Plant Aeschynonthus lobbianus	1
Baby Tears Helxine soleirolii	1	Liquidambar	1
Baby's Breath Gypsophyla	1	Lobelia Species	4, 5
Bachelor Buttons Centaurea cyanus	1	Lupine Lupinus	4, 7
Begonia Begonia species	2	Magnolia stellata	1
Birch Tree Betula species	3, 5	Manzanita Arctostaphylos	1
Bird of Paradise Stelitzia reginae	6	Maple Tree Acer species	1, 7
Bird's Nest Fern Asplenium nidus	1	Marble Queen Pothos Scundapsus aureus	2
Black Acacia Robinia pseudoacacia	4, 7	Marigolds Calendula or Tagets	1
Black Locust Robinia pseudoacacia	4, 7	Mimosa Pudica	1
Boston Fern Nephrolepis exalta	1	Mistletoe Phoradendron flavescens	6
Bottle Brush Callistemon species	1	Mock Orange Philadelphus species 1, Pittosporum tobira 1, Prunus caroliniana	4
Bougainvillea	1	Morning glory Lpomoca species	4
Boxwood Buxus sempervirens	3, 5	Mother-in-Law Tongue Sansevieria trifasciata	3
Cactus	1, 5	Mountain Laurel Kalmia latifolia	4
Caladium Caladium species	2, 5	Mulberry Tree Morus species	1
Calendula officinalis	1	Naked Lady Lycoris or Amaryllis	3
California Poppy Eschscholzia californica	6	Nandina domestics	6, 7
Calla Lilly Calla palustris	2	Nephthytis Syngonium podophyllum	2
Camelia Thea japonica	1	Nightshade, Black Solanium nigrum	4
Camphor Tree Cinnamomum camphora	4	Norfolk Island Pine Araucarica excelsia	1
Canna Lily Canna generalis	1	Oak Tree Quercus species	4, 7

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Carnation <i>Dianthus caryophyllus</i>	4	Oleander <i>Nerium oleander</i>	4, 5
Carolina Jasmine <i>Gelsemium</i>	4, 5	Orchid <i>Cattleyas</i> or <i>Onciaium</i>	1
Castor Beans <i>Ricinus communis</i>	4	Oregon Grape <i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	1
Catalpa <i>Speciosa</i>	1, 5	Ornamental Pepper <i>Solanum pseudocapsicum</i>	4
Catnip <i>Nepeta cataria</i>	1	Ornamental Plum Tree <i>Prunus</i> Species	4
Cedar <i>Thuja</i> species	3, 5	Palm Species	1, 5
Century Plant <i>Agave</i>	3, 5	Pansy <i>Viola tricolor</i>	3
Cherry Tree <i>Prunus</i>	4, 7	Peach Tree <i>Prunus persica</i>	4, 7
China Berry <i>Melia azedarach</i>	4	Peperomia Species	1
China Doll <i>Leea coccinea</i>	1,	Petunia Species	1
Radermachera <i>pentandra</i>	1	Philodendron Species	2
Chinese Evergreen <i>Aglaonema modestum</i>	2	Photinia <i>arbutifolia</i>	4
Christmas Cactus <i>Zygocatus truncates</i> or <i>Schlumbergera bridgesii</i>	1	Piggyback Plant <i>Tolmiea memziesii</i>	1
Chrysanthemum Species	3, 5	Pilea	1
Coffee Tree Plant <i>Polyscias guilfoyei</i>	4, 5	Pine Tree Species	6, 7
Coleus Species	1	Pittosporum <i>tobira</i>	1
Coreopsis	1	Poinsettia <i>Euphorbia pulcherrima</i>	6
Corn Plant <i>Draceana fragrans massangeana</i> <i>Cosmos</i>	1	Pokeweed <i>Phytolacca americana</i>	4
Cotoneaster	6	Potato Plant <i>Solanum tuberosum</i>	4, 7
Crape Myrtle <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	1	Pothos <i>Epipremnum aureum</i>	2
Creeping Charlie <i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	3	Prayer Plant <i>Maranta Leuconeura</i>	1
Creeping Charlie <i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	1	Pregnant Onion <i>Ornithogalum caudatum</i>	4, 5
Creeping Charlie <i>Pil nummularifolia</i>	1	Pregnant Plant <i>Kalanchoe pinnata</i>	1
Creeping Fig <i>Ficus pumilia</i>	5	Privet <i>Ligustrum</i> Species	4
Crocus Species (Spring blooming only)	1	Purple Passion Plant <i>Gynura sacramentosa</i>	1
Crown of Thorns <i>Euphorbia milli</i>	3, 5	Purple Velvet Plant <i>Gynura</i> Species	1
Cyclamen	4	Pyracantha	3, 5
Daffodil <i>Narcissus</i>	3	Ranunculus	3, 5, 7
Dahlia Species	1	Redwood Tree <i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	3, 5
Daisy <i>Chrysanthemum</i>	3, 5	Rhododendron Species	4
Dandelion <i>Taraxacum officinale</i> =	1	Rhubarb Leaf <i>Rheum</i> species	2, 5
Daphne	4, 5	Rosary Beads <i>Ibrus precatorius</i>	4
Delphinium Species	4	Rosary Vine <i>Crassula rupestris</i>	1
Devil's Ivy <i>Epipremnum aureum</i>	2	Rose <i>Rosa</i> species	1, 5
Dieffenbachia Species	2	Rubber Tree <i>Ficus elastica decora</i>	1, 5
Donkey Tail <i>Sedum morganianum</i>	1	Sago Plant <i>Cycas revoluta</i>	4, 7

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Dracaena Species	1, 7	Schefflera Brassia actinophylla	2, 5, 7
Dumbcane Dieffenbachia amoena	2	Sedum	1
Elderberry Sambucus	4, 7	Sensitive Plant Mimosa pudica	1
Elm Tree Ulmus species	5	Silk Tree Albizzia	1
Emerald Ripple Peperomia caperata	1	Snake Plant Sansevieria trifasciata	3
English Ivy Hedera helix	4, 5	Snap Dragon Antirrhinum species	1
Escallonia	1	Snowberry Symphoricarpos racemosus	3
Eucalyptus globulus Species	3	Spathiphyllum	2
Euonymus	4	Spider Plant Chlorophytum comosum	1
False Aralia		Split Leaf Philodendron Monstera deliciosa	2, 5
Dizygotheca elegantissima	1	Spruce Tree Picea species	6, 7
Ficus Benjamina	5	Star Jasmine Trachelospermum jasminoides	1
Fiddleleaf Fig Ficus lyrata	5	Stephanotis	1
Fir Abies or pseudotsuga	1	String of Hearts Creopogia woodii	1
Forget-me-nots Myosotis	1	String of Pearls Senecio rowleyanus or herreianus	4
Four-o'-clocks Mirabilis jalapa	4, 5	Swedish Ivy Plectranthus australis	1
Foxglove Digitalis purpurea	4	Sweet Pea Lathyrus odoratus	3, 7
Fuchsia Species	1	Sweet William Dianthus barbatus	3
Gardenia jasminoides	1	Ti Plant Cordyline terminalis	1
Geranium Pelargonium	5	Toyon Photinia arbutifolia	4
Geranium, California Senecio petasitis	4	Tulip Tulipa	5
Gladiola	3, 5	Umbrella Plant Cyperus altemifolius	3
Gloxinia Sinningia Speciosa	1	Umbrella Tree Scheffiera actinophylla	2, 5
Grape Ivy Cissus rhombifolia	1	Verbena Species	5
Grevillea Species	1, 5	Viburnum Species	1
Heavenly Bamboo Nandina domestica	6, 7	Vinca Species	4
Hen and Chicks Sempervivum tectorum	1	Violas Species	3
Hibiscus	1	Virginia Creeper Parthenocissus quinquefolia	2
Holly Ilex	3	Walnut Tree Black Juglans nigra	5
Honeysuckle Lonicera	6	Wandering Jew Tradescantia albiflora	5
Hoya Wax plant	1	Wandering Jew, Red or White Zebrina pendula	1
Hyacinth Hyacinthus orientalis	3, 5, 7	Wax Plant Hoya comosa	1
Hydrangea Species	3	Weeping Fig Ficus benjamina	5
Ice Plant Aptenia cordifolia or Lampranthus	1	Wisteria	4
Impatiens	1	Xylosma	1
Indian Hawthorn Raphiolepis Indica	1	Yellow jessamine Gelsemium	4, 5

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Indian Laurel Ficus nitida	5	Yew Taxus species	4
Iris	3, 5	Yucca	1
Ivy Hedera Helix	4, 5	Zebra Plant Aphelandra squarrosa	1
Jack in the Pulpit Arisaema triphyllum	2, 5	Zinnia	1