

Common Plant Poisons

Many common houseplants and landscape plants are poisonous. Review this list and give poisonous houseplants to friends and neighbors who don't have pets. If your pet chews on outdoor plants, dig up the poisonous ones or make sure that they're off-limits. Here are the worst offenders.

Poison source	Symptoms	First Aid
Azalea	Salivation, vomiting, diarrhea, muscle weakness, seizures, coma, death	Give lots of water to wash stomach; give activated charcoal
Belladonna, datura, henbane, jessamine, jimsonweed	Dry, red skin; fever; seizures; excess thirst; dilated pupils	Induce vomiting
Caladium, dieffenbachia, philodendron	Swollen tongue and throat, difficulty breathing	DO NOT induce vomiting; keep airway open; give CPR if necessary; offer milk or water to wash out mouth
Crown of thorns, English ivy	Thirst, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain, death in 1 to 2 days	Induce vomiting
Daffodil, tulip, wisteria bulbs	Depression, violent vomiting	Induce vomiting unless pet is already vomiting; give water and/or milk to dilute poison and coat stomach
Foxglove, larkspur, lily of the valley, monkshood, oleander	Depression, bloody diarrhea, fast or slow heartbeat, severe stomach pain, coma, death	Induce vomiting
Holly	Stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhea	Induce vomiting
Jerusalem cherry, potato (green parts and eyes), nightshade	Vomiting, bloody diarrhea, trembling, weakness	DO NOT induce vomiting; <i>antidote available from vet</i>
Lily	Kidney failure, with excess urination and drinking	Induce vomiting
Mother-in-law's tongue (snake plant)	Vomiting, salivation, diarrhea, staggering, collapse, mouth irritation	DO NOT induce vomiting; offer milk or water to wash out mouth
Rhubarb	Vomiting, salivation, stomach pain, convulsions, kidney damage	Induce vomiting
Seeds and pits of apple, apricot, cherry, peach, and hydrangea	Cyanide poisoning: bright red gums, involuntary urination and defecation, labored breathing, seizures, frothing at the mouth, coma	Induce vomiting; <i>antidote available from vet</i>
Walnuts (hulls)	Vomiting, diarrhea, convulsions	Induce vomiting
Yew	Muscle weakness, difficulty breathing, dilated pupils, sudden death without signs	Induce vomiting; keep airway open; give CPR if necessary