

Death in the Garden

There are many plants commonly found in home gardens that could prove lethal to dogs and especially to puppies (who chew everything) – not to mention yourself and your children. Below is a list of some of those plants with the effects they can have if eaten – even in small quantities.

AZALEA (entire plant): Paralysis of the muscles, including the heart. Depression of the central nervous system. Sometimes fatal.

BELADONNA: Contains digitalis, causes nausea, diarrhoea and cardiac arrest.

BIRD OF PARADISE (seed pods): Nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea.

BUTTERCUP (entire plant): Stomach irritation, diarrhoea, and in large quantities, convulsions.

CALLA LILY (entire plant): Intense burning sensation and irritation of the mouth and stomach.

CASTOR BEAN (entire plant but especially the seeds): Burning sensation in the mouth. Swallowing two or more seeds may cause serious illness or death.

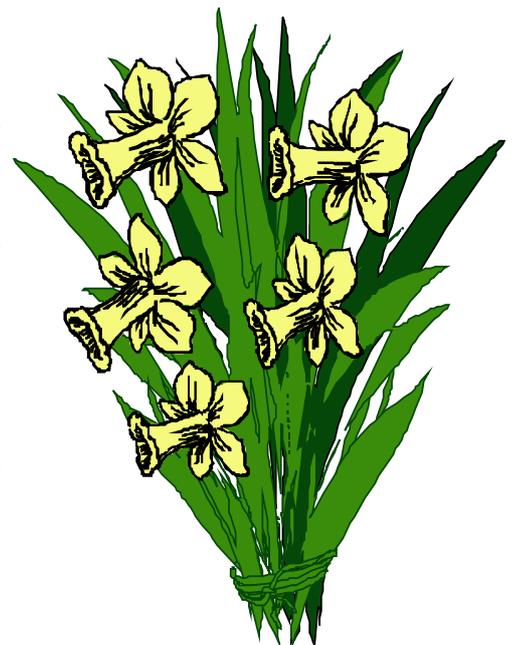
DAFFODIL (bulb): Severe vomiting and diarrhoea, trembling, convulsions and sometimes death.

DAPHNE (entire plant): Burning and ulceration of stomach and intestines, bloody vomiting and diarrhoea.

ENGLISH IVY (leaves and berries): General excitement, difficulties breathing, coma.

HOLLY (berries): Vomiting, diarrhoea, weakness and collapse.

IRIS (leaves, roots & fleshy portions): Severe but temporary digestive upset.



JERUSALEM CHERRY (berries): Vomiting, diarrhoea and collapse.

LANTANA (berries): Gastro-intestinal irritation, muscular weakness and circulatory difficulties. Sometimes fatal.

OLEANDER (entire plant): Nausea, depression, bloody diarrhoea, weakened and irregular pulse and paralysis.

POINSETTIA (leaves & stem): Diarrhoea, abdominal cramps and delirium. Sap can cause skin irritation and if rubbed in eyes, blindness.

POISON OAK (leaves): Skin irritation.

PRIVET (entire plant): Bloody vomiting, diarrhoea, severe irritation of the digestive tract and general nervous symptoms.

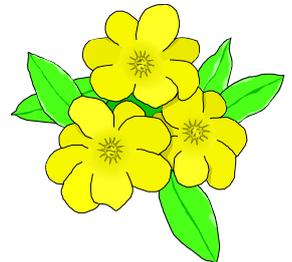
RANUNCULUS (entire plant): Stomach irritation, diarrhoea, and in large quantities, convulsions.

RHUBARB (leaves): Vomiting, severe abdominal pain, muscle cramps and in large quantities, convulsions, coma and death.

WANDERING JEW: Common cause of dermatitis

WISTERIA (entire plant): Severe vomiting, abdominal pain and diarrhoea.

YELLOW JASMINE (entire plant): Thirst, dilation of pupils, reddened skin, headache, high blood pressure and rapid pulse, convulsions, delirium and coma.



It is not safe to assume that just because you can eat one part of a plant, the rest isn't poisonous. For instance, although we eat peaches, both the stone and leaf contain cyanide. Apricots also contain cyanide and children have actually died from eating too many of the kernels. Although rhubarb stalks are good to eat, the leafy portion has been known to cause fatalities in humans.

Please note: the information in this handout has been externally sourced. It has not been independently verified by our veterinary staff although it is presented in good faith.