



Horticultural Therapy Association of Victoria

POISONOUS PLANTS

Some plants should be avoided because of their toxicity. Besides oral toxicity, be aware of skin irritations and allergies from contact with certain plants. Be aware that some people react to some plants more than others. Some may have adverse reactions because of their medications, which may enhance sensitivity to toxic plants.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Toxic parts
Angel's trumpets	Datura sp, Brugmansia sp	All parts
Arum lily	Zantedeschia	All parts
Autumn crocus	Colchicum sp	Leaves, seeds & bulbs
Belladonna	Amaryllis belladonna	Sap of bulbs & leaves
Castor oil plant	Ricinus communis	Seeds
Colombines	Aquilegia sp	Seeds
Cycads	Cycadaceae	Berries
Delphinium	Delphinium sp	All parts
Daffodils & Jonquils	Narcissus sp	Bulbs, leaves & flowers
Euphorbia	Euphorbia sp	Sap
Foxglove	Digitalis	Leaves
Golden chain	Laburnum anagyroides	All parts
Grevilleas	Grevillea sp	Can cause dermatitis
Hellebores	Helleborus sp	Sap
Hyacinths	Hyacinthus	Bulbs
Ivy	Hedera helix	Sap
Japanese windflowers	Anemone hupehensis	All parts
Lily of the Valley	Convallaria sp	Berries
Mountain Ash, Rowan	Sorbus sp	Berries & seeds
Nettles	Urticaceae sp	Painful stings & skin irritation
Oleander	Nerium oleander	All parts
Poinsettia	Euphorbia sp	Sap is an irritant
Plumbago	Plumbaginaceae	Sap
Primulas	Primula sp	Flowers
Privet	Ligustrum	Berries
Rhododendron	Rhododendron sp	Ingestion of leaves, flowers
Rhus	Toxicodendron	Sap in leaves, bark & stems
Spurge	Euphorbia sp	Sap
Wisteria	Wisteria sp	Pods & seeds
Yesterday, today & tomorrow	Brunfelsia sp	Seeds

Symptoms of poisoning from plants – Skin irritation, Burning /stinging around mouth, vomiting, stomach cramps, irregular heartbeat, convulsions.

First Aid

- Skin irritation - gently wash the skin with water.
- Eye contact - rinse eye with water.
- For swallowed plants - remove any remaining plants and wash mouth out.
- If breathing is difficult, if unconscious or having convulsions call an ambulance. (Take a sample of plant to hospital)