

## Common Plants Toxic to Dogs and Cats



### Lilies

**Toxin:** Unknown toxic compound in *Lilium* and *Hermerocallis* spp. The entire plant is toxic. Cats are exceptionally susceptible to toxicity.

**Symptoms:** Include vomiting (often contains pieces of lily) and signs associated with

kidney failure including disinterest in food, depression, vomiting, and no urination.

**Recommendation:** Seek veterinary attention immediately.



### Marijuana

**Toxin:** Delta-9-THC.

**Symptoms:** Ingestion of *Cannabis sativa* by companion animals can result in depression of the central nervous system and in- coordination, drowsiness or excitation, as well as vomiting, diarrhoea, drooling,

increased heart rate, and even seizures and coma.

**Recommendation:** Seek veterinary attention for symptomatic care.



### Cyclamen

**Toxin:** Terpenoid saponins (*cyclamine*). All parts of the plant are toxic, however, the highest concentration of the toxin is in the root portion of the plant.

**Symptoms:** Include significant gastrointestinal irritation, including intense vomiting drooling and diarrhoea. Fatalities have also

been reported due to heart rhythm abnormalities and seizures.

**Recommendation:** Seek veterinary attention for symptomatic care. Seek attention immediately if a bulb has been ingested.



### Sago Palm

**Toxin:** Cycasin. All parts of *Cycas Revoluta* are poisonous, but the seeds or "nuts" contain the largest amount of toxin. The ingestion of just one or two

seeds can result in very serious effects.

**Symptoms:** Include vomiting, diarrhoea, black or bloody stools, bruising, yellow discolouration to skin, seizures and liver failure.

**Recommendation:** Seek veterinary attention immediately.



### Tulip/Narcissus Bulbs

**Toxin:** Tulipalin A and B. The bulb portions of *Tulipa/Narcissus* spp. contain the highest portions of the toxins.

**Symptoms:** Include intense gastrointestinal irritation causing drooling, loss of appetite, vomiting and diarrhoea, depression of the central nervous system,

convulsions and cardiac abnormalities.

**Recommendation:** Seek veterinary attention for symptomatic care.



### Azalea/ Rhododendron

**Toxin:** Grayantoxin

**Symptoms:** Include vomiting, drooling, diarrhoea, weakness, loss of coordination and depression of the central nervous system. Severe poisoning could ultimately

lead to coma and death from cardiovascular collapse.

**Recommendation:** Seek veterinary attention for symptomatic care.



### Oleander

**Toxin:** Cardiac glycosides. All parts of *Nerium oleander* are toxic.

**Symptoms:** Include gastrointestinal tract irritation causing drooling, vomiting, diarrhoea (may be bloody), loss of coordination, shallow

breathing, muscle tremors, hypothermia and even death from abnormal heart function.

**Recommendation:** Seek veterinary attention immediately.



### Amaryllis

**Toxin:** Lycorine and others.

**Symptoms:** Include vomiting, depression, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, drooling, inappetance and tremors.

**Recommendation:** Seek veterinary attention for symptomatic care.



### Kalanchoe

**Toxin:** Bufadienolide cardiac glycosides.

**Symptoms:** Include gastrointestinal irritation causing vomiting and diarrhoea, as well as abnormalities of the heart rhythm and rate which can cause death (rare).

**Recommendation:** Seek

veterinary attention for symptomatic care.



### Autumn Crocus

**Toxin:** Colchicine and other alkaloids.

**Symptoms:** Include drooling, vomiting (may contain blood), diarrhoea, shock, multi-organ damage and bone marrow suppression.

**Recommendation:** Seek veterinary attention immediately.



### Yew

**Toxin:** Taxine.

**Symptoms:** Include sudden death from acute heart failure. Earlier signs include vomiting, muscle tremors, loss of coordination, abnormal breathing and seizures.

**Recommendation:** Seek veterinary attention immediately.



### English Ivy

**Toxin:** Triterpenoid saponins (hederagenin). There is a higher concentration of the toxin in the leaves than the berries.

**Symptoms:** Include

vomiting, abdominal pain, drooling and diarrhoea.  
**Recommendation:** Seek veterinary attention for symptomatic care.

### Peace Lily/Pothos/Schefflera

**Toxin:** Insoluble calcium oxalates.

**Symptoms:** If chewed or ingested, can cause significant irritation of the mouth leading to drooling, vomiting and difficulty swallowing.

**Recommendation:** Seek veterinary attention for symptomatic care.



### Chrysanthemum

**Toxin:** Pyrethrins.

**Symptoms:** Include drooling, vomiting and diarrhoea, depression and loss of coordination.

**Recommendation:** Seek veterinary attention for symptomatic care.

