

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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



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.



Chrysanthemum

Toxin: Pyrethrins.

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

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.

