

Common plant toxins

IF YOUR PET IS SHOWING SYMPTOMS FROM ANY OF THE TOXIC ITEMS LISTED, SEEK VETERINARY ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY.

LILIES

TOXIN: Unknown toxic compound in *Lilium* and *Hermerocallis* spp. The entire plant is toxic. Cats are especially 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.

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.

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, such as intense vomiting, drooling and diarrhoea. Fatalities have also been reported due to heart rhythm abnormalities and seizures.



SAGO PALM

TOXIN: Cycasin. All parts of *Cycas revoluta* are poisonous, but the seeds or 'nuts' contain the largest amount of toxin. Ingestion of just one or two seeds can result in very severe symptoms.

SYMPTOMS: Include vomiting, diarrhoea (may contain blood), yellow discolouration to the skin and seizures. Symptoms are due to liver failure.



AZALEA/RHODODENDRON

TOXIN: Grayantoxin

SYMPTOMS: Include vomiting, drooling, diarrhoea, weakness, loss of coordination and depression. Severe poisoning could ultimately lead to coma and death from cardiovascular collapse.



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.



KALANCHOE

TOXIN: Bufadienolide

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

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CHRYSANTHEMUM

TOXIN: Pyrethrins

SYMPTOMS: Include drooling, vomiting and diarrhoea, depression, loss of coordination, tremors and, in severe cases, seizures.



TULIPS

TOXIN: Tulipalin A and B

SYMPTOMS: Vomiting, depression, diarrhoea, hypersalivation. Highest concentration of toxin in the bulb.



AUTUMN CROCUS

TOXIN: Colchicine and other alkaloids

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



IRIS

TOXIN: Iridaceae. The highest concentration of toxin is in the roots.

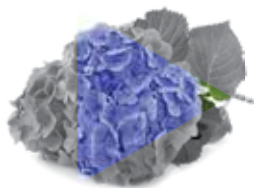
SYMPTOMS: Include salivation, vomiting, diarrhoea and depression.



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.



HYDRANGEA

TOXIN: Cyanogenic glycoside.

SYMPTOMS: Include vomiting, diarrhoea, depression and in severe cases, shortness of breath, incoordination, collapse, coma and rapid death from cyanide toxicity.



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.



WANDERING JEW

TOXIN: Unknown contact allergen.

SYMPTOMS: Dermatitis manifesting as intense itchiness, rash or bump formation, weeping of the skin and scabs. Symptoms are most common on exposed areas such as the abdomen, groin, anal area, scrotum and paws.