



PLANTS POISONOUS TO (ZOO) ANIMALS

- COMPLETELY REVISED APRIL 2014 -

Deadly Nightshade

Atropa Belladonna

Harmful parts: Whole plant (especially the black berries).

Susceptible animal species: Canines, felines, horses, zebras, and donkeys.

Symptoms: Red skin, thick throat, enlarged pupils, dry mucous membranes, fever, vomiting, faster heartbeat (= tachycardia), and hallucinations can occur (animal seems very confused).



Poison Hemlock

Conium maculatum

Harmful parts: Whole plant (especially the juice).

Susceptible animal species: Horses, zebras, donkeys, canines, felines, cattle, pigs (hogs), and birds.

Symptoms: Paralysis of motor nerves; can even cause death.



Broom

Cytisus scoparius

Harmful parts: Mainly pods and seeds. Young twigs and leaves to a small extent.

Susceptible animal species: Canines, roe deer, deer, sheep, geese, and birds.

Symptoms: Stomach cramps, vomiting, nausea, arrhythmia, circulatory disturbances, unconsciousness, and cramps (agitation, panting, unwillingness to lie down, looking at abdomen).



Cherry-laurel

Prunus spp.

Harmful parts: Leaves and seeds are very poisonous.

Susceptible animal species: Horses, zebras, goats and dogs. Deadly poisoning mainly occurs in cattle and sheep.

Symptoms: Agitation, vomiting, and respiratory distress.



Oleander

Nerium oleander

Harmful parts: Whole plant (especially the juice in leaves and stalks).

Susceptible animal species: Horses (expresses in colics), sheep, cattle, goats, and canines.

Symptoms: Nausea, vomiting, excessive salivation, abdominal pain (agitation, unwillingness to lie down, panting, looking at abdomen), diarrhoea (with or without blood), arrhythmia, damages to the nervous system, and coma. In case of severe poisoning the animal can die.



Skimmia

Skimmia japonica

Harmful parts: All parts are slightly poisonous, but especially the berries (acute effects are noticeable after ingestion of larger amounts).

Susceptible animal species: Rodents, cattle, horses, zebras, donkeys, sheep, and goats.

Symptoms: Nausea, diarrhoea, and irritation inside the mouth after swallowing multiple berries.



Common Box

Buxus sempervirens

Harmful parts: The seeds, leaves, and bark of the root.

Susceptible animal species: Felines, canines, horses, zebras, donkeys, cattle, and pigs (hogs).

Symptoms: Diarrhoea, uncoordinated behaviour, convulsions, and possible paralysis of the central nervous system.



Cyclamen

Cyclamen spp.

Harmful parts: Whole plant (especially the bulb and leaves).

Susceptible animal species: Felines, canines, cattle, sheep, horses, goats, and pigs (hogs).

Symptoms: Digestive problems, abdominal cramps (agitation, panting, unwillingness to lie down, looking at the abdomen), and paralysis. These symptoms can occur after ingestion of only a small piece of the plant's bulb.



Dumb Cane

Dieffenbachia spp.

Harmful parts: Whole plant (especially juice and stalks of the plant).

Susceptible animal species: Felines, canines, and elephants.

Symptoms: Redness, irritation, burning pain, can lead to skin inflammations. Ingestion can cause inflammation of the digestive tract, which almost always results in diarrhoea.



Common Laburnum

Laburnum anagyroides

Harmful parts: Whole plant (esp. the fruits).

Susceptible animal species: Felines, canines, pigs (hogs), sheep, goats, cattle, horses, zebras, and birds.

Symptoms: Vomiting, diarrhoea, weakness, sleepiness, deteriorated coordination, sweating, paleness, enlarged pupils, and a faster heartbeat (= tachycardia).



Catawba Rhododendron

Rhododendron catawbiense

Harmful parts: Whole plant, including nectar.

Susceptible animal species: Lethal to horses, zebras, and cattle. A dozen leaves suffice to cause poisoning.

Symptoms: Slows down distribution of impulses from the central nervous system. Also diarrhoea, bradycardia (heart beats too slow), and unconsciousness (at high doses).



Common Yew

Taxus baccata

Harmful parts: Everything except the fleshy aril.

Susceptible animal species: Horses, mules, cattle, bison, sheep, goats, pigs (hogs), hare spp., polar bears, brown bears, kangaroos, ducks, chickens, pheasants, partridges, budgerigars, bearded vultures, birds, reindeer, and canines. Especially horses are susceptible.

Symptoms: Arrhythmia, cardiac arrest, and liver and kidney failure.

