Poisonous Plants That Harm Small Pets

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

In the wild, many small animals depend on plants for survival. The succulent leaves are often used for food, the sturdy branches to build nests, and the thin roots chewed to obtain water and nutrients. It is no wonder then that, once brought into our homes as pets, small animals may mistake our favorite houseplants for shelter or food. In some regards, a small pet brought into a home filled with beautiful foliage is like a child being given free reins in a candy store. There are a lot of new flavors to taste, scents to smell, and colors to explore. Unfortunately, many of the most popular plants, whether used for indoor decoration or outdoor landscaping, are potentially dangerous or deadly to small pets.

Though not all inclusive, the below list does contain many of the plants most frequently found in and around a person's home - whether native to the area or purchased from a retail store or greenhouse. Some of the following plants, such as oleander, are extremely toxic. Others may only cause a mild reaction. Regardless, it is best to remove any potentially dangerous plants from areas where your small pet could come into contact with them. If you have any doubt about the safety of plants you own, please contact your veterinarian or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center.

A - B **C - D** **E - G** **H - J** **K - L** **M - N** **O - R** **S - Y**

A - B

A			
Air plant	Aloe	Amanita	Amaryllis
American yew	Andromeda	Arum lily	Asiatic lily
Autumn crocus	Australian flame tree	Avocado	Azalea

B			
Balsam pear	Baneberry	Bird of paradise	Bishop's weed
Black laurel	Black locust	Bloodroot	Bluebonnet
Blue-green algae	Boxwood	Bracken fern	Broad beans
Broomcorn grass	Buckeye	Buckthorn	Bulb flowers

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Burdock	Buttercup

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C - D

C			
Cacao	Caladium	Calla lily	Camel bush
Candelabra tree	Cardinal	Castor bean	Chalice vine
Cherry tree	Chinaberry tree	Christmas candle	Clematis
Cocklebur	Coffee	Coffee bean	Coral plant
Coriander	Corn cockle	Cotton bush	Coyotillo
Cowslip	Crown of thorns	Cutleaf	

D			
Daffodil	Daphne	Datura	Day lily
Deadly amanita	Death camus	Delphinium	Devil's ivy
Dieffenbachia	Dutchman's breeches		

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E - G

E			
Easter lily	Eggplant	Elderberry	Elephant's ear
English ivy	English yew	Ergot	Eucalyptus
Euonymus			

F			
False hellebore	False henbane	Flame tree	Felt plant
Firethorn	Four o'clock	Foxglove	

G			
Ghostweed	Gladiolas	Glottidium	Golden chain
Golden cherry	Golden pothos		

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H - J

H			
Heliotrope	Hemlock	Henbane	Holly

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Honeysuckle	Horse bean	Horse chestnut	Horsetail
Hyacinth	Hydrangea		

I			
Indian licorice	Indian turnip	Inkberry	Iris

J			
Jack-in-the-pulpit	Java bean	Jasmine	Jerusalem cherry
Jimsonweed	Johnson grass	Juniper	

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K - L

K	
Kentucky coffee tree	Kalanchoe

L			
Lantana	Larkspur	Laurel	Leucotho
Lily-of-the-valley	Lima bean	Lobelia	Locoweed
Lords and ladies	Lupine		

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M - N

M			
Macadamia nut	Malanga	Mandrake	Marijuana
Maternity plant	Mayapple	Meadow saffron	Mescal bean
Mexican breadfruit	Mexican poppy	Milk vetch	Milkweed
Mistletoe	Mock orange	Monkshood	Moonseed
Morning glory	Mountain laurel	Mushrooms	

N			
Narcissus	Navy bean	Nettles	Nightshade

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O - R

O	
Oak	Oleander

P

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Panda plant	Parsley	Peires	Pencil tree
Periwinkle	Philodendrons	Pigweed	Pikeweed
Poinciana	Poinsettia	Poison ivy	Poison oak
Pokeweed	Potato	Precatory	Privet
Pyracantha			

R			
Rain tree	Ranunculus	Rape	Rattlebox
Rattlebush	Red maple	Rhubarb	Rhododendrons
Rosary peas			

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S - Y

S			
Sago palm	Sandbox tree	Scarlet runner	Skunk cabbage
Snowdrop	Snow on the mountain	Sorghum grass	Sorrel
Spindle tree	Spurges	Sudan grass	Sweet pea

T			
Tansy ragwort	Tobacco	Tomato plant	Thornapple
Tulip			

V		
Vetch	Virginia bower	Virginia creeper

W		
Wattle	White cedar	Wisteria

Y			
Yam bean	Yews	Yello jasmine	Yucca

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