

# Herp Safety: Poisonous Plants for Reptiles and Amphibians

*Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff*

The following plants are all dangerous to some degree. Some, like oleander and Dieffenbachia (dumb cane) can cause death almost instantly. Others may cause only a mild reaction, but it is still best to remove them from any areas where they would be in contact with your herp.

This is not a complete list, so if you are in any doubt about the safety of plants that you have, please contact your veterinarian or the poison control center. The ASPCA National Animal Poison Control Center hotline number is as follows:

- 1-888-4ANI-HELP or 1-888-426-4435 (\$65.00 per case). The charge is billed to caller's credit card.

Plants dangerous for herps:

Air plant	Elderberry	Mistletoe
Amanita	Elephant's ear	Mock orange
Amaryllis	English ivy	Monkshood
American yew	English yew	Moonseed
Andromeda	Ergot	Morning glory
Arum lily	Eucalyptus	Mountain laurel
Australian flame tree	Euonymus	Mushrooms
Autumn crocus	False hellebore	Narcissus
Avocado	False henbane	Navy bean
Azalea	Felt plant	Nettles
Balsam pear	Firethorn	Nightshades
Baneberry	Flame tree	Oak
Bird of paradise	Four O'Clock	Oleander
Bishop's weed	Foxglove	Panda plant
Black laurel	Ghostweed	Parsley
Black locust	Glottidium	Peires
Bloodroot	Golden chain	Pencil tree
Bluebonnet	Ground cherry	Periwinkle
Blue-green algae	Heliotrope	Philodendrons
Boxwood	Hemlock	Pigweed
Bracken fern	Henbane	Pikeweed
Broad beans	Holly	Poinciana
Broomcorn grass	Honeysuckle	Poinsettia
Buckeye	Horse bean	Poison ivy
Buckthorn	Horse chestnut	Poison oak
Bulb flowers	Horsetail reed	Pokeweed
Burdock	Hyacinth	Potato
Buttercup	Hydrangea	Precatory
Cacao	Indian licorice	Privet
Caladium	Indian turnip	Pyracantha
Calla lily	Inkberry	Rain tree
Camel bush	Iris	Ranunculus
Candelabra tree	Jack-in-the-pulpit	Rape
Cardinal	Jasmine	Rattlebox

Castor bean	Java bean	Rattlebush
Chalice vine	Jerusalem cherry	Red maple
Cherry tree	Jimsonweed	Rhododendrons
Chinaberry tree	Johnson grass	Rhubarb
Christmas candle	Juniper	Rosary peas
Clematis	Kentucky coffee tree	Sandbox tree
Cocklebur	Lantana	Scarlet runner
Coffee	Larkspur	Skunk cabbage
Coffee bean	Laurel	Snowdrop
Coral plant	Leucotho	Snow on the mountain
Coriander	Lily-of-the-valley	Sorghum grass
Corncockle	Lima bean	Sorrel
Cotton bush	Lobelia	Spindle tree
Coyotillo	Locoweed	Spurges
Cowslip	Lords and ladies	Sudan grass
Crown of thorns	Lupine	Sweet pea
Cutleaf	Malanga	Tansy ragwort
Daffodil	Mandrake	Thornapple
Daphne	Marijuana	Tobacco
Datura	Maternity plant	Vetch
Deadly amanita	Mayapple	Virginia bower
Death camus	Meadow saffron	Virginia creeper
Delphinium	Mescal bean	Wattle
Devil's ivy	Mexican breadfruit	White cedar
Dieffenbachia	Mexican poppy	Wisteria
Dutchman's breeches	Milk vetch	Yam bean
Eggplant	Milkweed	Yews
		Yellow jasmine