

Plants_Poisonous_To_Humans_List_2004.txt

From: klier@iscsvax.uni.edu
Newsgroups: rec.gardens
Subject: pOISONOUS PLANTS LIST
Date: 21 Feb 93 15:24:14 -0600
Organization: University of Northern Iowa
Lines: 295

Plants poisonous to humans:

the list is divided into those known to have caused fatalities in humans and those with significant quantities of poisonous substances

Plants known to have caused human fatalities: List includes only North American natives and plants commonly grown in North America

Plant -----	Scientific Name (spp. = species plural) -----	Poisonous parts* (fls=flowers; frt= fruit; lvs=leaves; rt=root) -----
Angel's trumpet	Datura suaveolens	all, esp. seed, lvs
Azalea	Rhododendron spp.	lvs, fls
Baneberry	Actaea spp.	frt; rt
Belladonna	Atropa belladonna	all, esp. frt, rt

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Black Cherry	Prunus serotina	bark, seed, lvs (frt OK)
Black Locust	Robinia pseudo- acacia	seed, lvs, inner bark
Black snakeroot	Zigadenus spp.	bulbs
Buckeye	Aesculus spp.	seed, lv, stem, fls and honey made from nectar
Caladium	Caladium spp.	all parts
Carolina jessamine	Gelsimium sempervirens	all parts
Castor bean	Ricinus communis	seed
Chinaberry	Melia azdirach	frt, lvs
Daphne	Daphne mexereum	all parts
Death camas	Zigadenus spp.	bulbs
Dieffenbachia	Dieffenbachia spp.	all parts
Duranta	Duranta repens	frt
English ivy	Hedera helix	frt, lvs
False hellebore	Veratrum spp.	all parts

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Foxglove	Digitalis purpurea	all parts
Golden chain tree	Laburnum anagyroides	seed, fls
Horse chestnut	Aesculus spp.	seed, lv, stem, fls including honey made from nectar
Jequirty bean	Abrus precatorius	seed
Jimson weed	Datura stramonium and Datura spp.	all parts, esp seed
Lantana	Lantana camara	unripe frt
Lily of the valley	Convallaria majalis	all parts
Lobelia	Lobelia spp.	all parts
Mistletoe	Phoradendron spp.	frt
Monkshood	Aconitum spp.	all parts
Mountain laurel	Kalmia latifolia	lvs, stems, fls
Moonseed	Menispermum	frt

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canadense

Ne'em	Melia azdirach	frt, lvs
Nightshade	Solanum spp.	unripe frt
Oleander	Nerium oleander	all parts
Poke	Phytolacca americana	rt, mature stems
Precatory bean	Abrus precatorius	seed
Rhododendron	Rhododendron sp.	lvs, fls
Rhubarb	Rheum rhaponticum	leaf blades
Rubber vine	Cryptostegia grandiflora	all parts
Sandbox tree	Hura crepitans	milky sap and seed
Tabacco (incl. tree tobacco)	Nicotiana spp	all parts, esp lvs
Tansy	Tanacetum vulgare	lvs, fls
Tung tree	Aleurites fordii	all parts, esp seed

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Water hemlock	Cicuta spp.	rt
White snakeroot	Eupatorium rugosum	all parts
Yellow oleander	Thevetia peruviana	all parts, esp frt
Yew	Taxus spp.	all parts but "berry pulp"

PLANTS WITH SIGNIFICANT QUANTITIES OF POISONOUS SUBSTANCES

Amaryllis	Amaryllis spp.	bulb
Autumn crocus	Colchicum autumnale	all parts
Bittersweet	Celastrus scandens	seed
Bleeding heart	Dicentra spp.	all parts
Bloodroot	Sanguinaria canadensis	all parts
Blue cohosh	Caulophyllum thalictroides	frt, lvs
Boxwood	Buxus sempervirens	lvs

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Buckthorn	Rhamnus spp.	frt
Bushman's poison	Acokanthera spp	all parts
Buttercup	Ranunculus spp.	all parts; toxicity varies from species to species; mostly causes blistering
Buttonbush	Cephalanthus occidentalis	lvs
Chincherinchee	Ornithogalum thyrsoides	all parts
Colchicum	Colchicum autumnale	all parts
Crown of thorns	Euphorbia splendens	milky latex
Culver's root	Veronicastrum virginianum	root
Daffodil	Narcissus spp.	bulb
Delphinium	Delphinium spp.	young plants, seed
Desert marigold	Baileya radiata	all parts
Dutchman's breeches	Dicentra cucullaria	all parts

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Fly poison	Amianthemum muscaetoxicum	lvs, rt
Four o'clock	Mirabilis jalapa	seed, rt
Gloriosa lily	Gloriosa spp.	all parts
Goldenseal	Hydrastis canadensis	rhizomes, lvs
Holly	Ilex spp.	frt
Hyacinth	Hyacinthus spp.	bulb
Hydrangea	Hydrangea spp.	buds, lvs
Jack in the Pulpit	Arisaema triphyllum	rt, lvs
Jessamine	Cestrum spp.	lvs, young stems
Jonquil	Narcissus spp.	bulb
Karaka nut	Corynocarpus laevigata	seed
Kentucky coffee tree	Gymnocladus dioica	frt
Larkspur	Delphinium spp.	young plants, seed

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Lignum vitae	Guaiacum officinale	frt
Locoweed	Astragalus and Oxytropis spp.	various parts; more of a livestock poisoning problem
Lupine	Lupinus spp.	various parts; primarily frt, seed
Mayapple	Podophyllum peltatum	all parts but ripe frt
Mescal bean	Sophora secundiflora	seed
Narcissus	Narcissus spp.	bulb
Ngaio	Myoporum laetum	lvs
Opium poppy	Papaver somniferum	unripe frt
Philodendron	Philodendron spp.	lvs, stems
Pittosporum	Pittosporum spp.	frt, lvs, stems
Poinsettia	Euphorbia pulcherrima	milky latex
Poison ivy	Toxicodendron radicans	sap, lvs

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Poison oak	Toxicodendron diversilobum	sap, lvs
Poison sumac	Toxicodendron vernix	sap, lvs
Prickly poppy	Argemone spp.	seed, lvs
Privet	Ligustrum vulgare	seed, lvs
Sneezeweed	Helenium spp.	all parts
Snow on the mountain	Euphorbia marginata	milky latex
Squirrel corn	Dicentra canadensis	all parts
Star of Bethlehem	Ornithagalum umbellatum	all parts
Sweet pea	Lathyrus spp.	seed

Kay Klier Biology Dept UNI in%"klier@iscsvax.uni"

Newsgroups: rec.gardens,misc.kids
 From: kdblake@b24a..b24a.ingr.com (Katherine Blake)
 Subject: Thanks for info on poison plants
 Date: Thu, 18 Feb 1993 21:04:50 GMT

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I would like to thank everyone who posted responses to my query about references for toxic plants. I have gotten the information I needed. Several people asked me to share the information I received, so I am going to give a quick synopsis here.

- 1) contact local county extension agency
- 2) contact local poison control center
- 3) AMA Handbook of Poisonous and Injurious Plants
- 4) Sunset book "Making Your Home Child-Safe"
- 5) Kay Klier recommended a book she believes the title to be "Daffodils are Poisonous" (I'm going to look for this)
She also recommended another book but believes it to be out of print. This information was posted to rec.gardening.
- 6) A coworker sent a list from rec.cats when she saw my posting
It's long but I will e-mail it to anyone who sends me an email request for it.

From kolwicz@badlands.NoDak.edu Sun Aug 28 22:21:24 EDT 1994

Article: 79571 of sci.med

Newsgroups: sci.med

Path:

bigblue.oit.unc.edu!concert!news-feed-1.peachnet.edu!news.duke.edu!MathWorks.Com!yeshua.marcam.com!zip.eecs.umich.edu!newsxfer.itd.umich.edu!nntp.cs.ubc.ca!uw-beaver!netnews.nwnet.net!ns1.nodak.edu!badlands!kolwicz

From: kolwicz@badlands.NoDak.edu (Frank Kolwicz)

Subject: Re: Poisonous mushrooms and berries

Sender: usenet@ns1.nodak.edu (Usenet login)

Message-ID: <Cv92p8.IoI@ns1.nodak.edu>

Date: Sun, 28 Aug 1994 14:53:32 GMT

References: <33oubf\$6bd@crl4.crl.com>

Nntp-Posting-Host: badlands.nodak.edu

Organization: North Dakota Higher Education Computing Network

X-Newsreader: TIN [version 1.2 PL2]

Lines: 58

Eric Smith (es@crl.com) wrote:

: Can you safely taste an unknown berry to find out whether it is
: edible? That is, if it turns out to be poisonous, will your taste buds
: warn you away from it before you get a large enough dose to do any
: harm?

: What about poisonous mushrooms? I've heard that some of them are very
: poisonous, such that one taste can be lethal. Is that true? I've also
: heard that some poisonous mushrooms taste the same as edible
: mushrooms. If this is true, how do animals that eat mushrooms know
: which ones to avoid?

*** I used to be an active mycophile and a mycophagist. That's a mushroom
lover and eater, so I'll just respond to the question about fungi.

Many of my colleagues were/are extremely concerned about gathering
different varieties of mushrooms in the same basket with their known
edibles, some even claiming that a deposit of the spores of toxic species
would be dangerous. However, from what I've read and heard from
professionals studying some of those poisonous species, it would take a
substantial portion to affect and/or kill an adult, like if you made meal
of them. Children are a different story; since the toxins' effects are +/-
proportional to body weight, smaller amounts can do more damage to kids.

Some years ago a group of Laotians collected a batch of poisonous
mushrooms which resembled a good species of their homeland with very
serious results. This is "as I recall": they claimed the mushrooms were
very tasty and made a pleasant meal. I believe the mushrooms they ate
were in the genus Amanita which contains some of the deadliest mushrooms
and at least one top-of-the-line choice edible. The toxins from these

mushrooms take 6 to 12 or more hours to have an effect, on the liver especially which is trying to eliminate them.

The prime rule we mycophiles lived by was: "If you can't identify it POSITIVELY, don't eat it." There were other rules of thumb for different genera, but they required that you knew each particular genus pretty well. A number of the rules required a small sample to be tasted, but just the tiniest bit that you could taste.

I am one of the few people I know who ate a bunch of mildly toxic (non-hallucinogenic) mushrooms. This was way before I took an active interest in identifying mushrooms and joined the Nutmeg Mycological Society of eastern Connecticut. That was more than 20 years ago. I distinctly remember being weak and having powerful heart palpitations and sweats for a few hours that night after having the mushrooms for supper. I think that the species was *Boletus bicolor* or something similar which can be very common in eastern Ct. in the late summer/early fall. This is a mushroom/complex that every book I know of warns you away from.

I also once tasted a single berry that I took for a wild grape. All I did was put it in my mouth and bite it. The acrid taste made me spit it out immediately, but it still made me feel funny for a while afterward, as I walked down the road.

Know what you are eating in the wild, there are plenty of identification books around and good luck.

Frank