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POISONOUS PLANTS OF THE UNITED STATES: A TABULAR SUMMARY

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Information about individual plants is presented in the following order: scientific name, common name, abbreviation of nativity and growth form, most toxic part of the plant, toxic principle(s), and syndrome(s) of toxicity, also abbreviated in many cases. See the end of the table for an explanation of syndromes and abbreviations.

F E R N S

Astrolepis cochisensis • jimmy fern • NH	Foliage	Unknown • Nervous disorder ("jimmies")
Equisetum spp. • horsetails • NH	Stems	Thiaminase • Circulatory failure
Dryopteris filix-mas • male fern • NH	Foliage	Thiaminase; GI
Matteucia struthiopteris • ostrich fern • NH		Thiaminase-like • Circulatory; tremors; carcinogenic
Onoclea sensibilis • sensitive fern • NH	Foliage	Unknown • CNS; lesions in brain
Pteridium aquilinum • bracken fern • NH	All, esp. rhizomes	Thiaminase • Circulatory; tremors; carcinogenic

G Y M N O S P E R M S

Cedrus deodara • deodar cedar • OT	Cones, sap	Unknown • Dermatitis
Cupressus macrocarpa • Monterey cypress • OT	Foliage	Unknown • Abortions in cattle
Cycas circinalis • false sago palm • OS	Most parts	Cycasin (glycoside) • GI; circulatory; CNS
Cycas revoluta • sago palm • OS	All parts	Glycosides and amino acid • GI and circulatory
Ephedra spp. • ephedra • NS	All parts	Ephedrine • Cardiovascular
Ginkgo biloba • maidenhair tree • OT	Seeds	Phenolic acids • Dermatitis
Pinus ponderosa • ponderosa pine • NT	Leaves, twigs	Terpene (?) • Abortions in cattle; teratogenic
Podocarpus macrophylla • yew pine • OT	Leaves, fruits	Unknown • GI

Taxus spp. • English and Japanese yew • OS
Zamia pumila • arrowroot • OS

All parts
Seeds

Taxine (alkaloids) • GI; circulatory; resp.; CV
Cycasin (glycoside) • Ataxia ("wobbles"); cancer

FLOWERING PLANTS

Aceraceae (Maple Family)

Acer rubrum • red maple • NT

Leaves, twigs

Unknown • Circulatory

Agavaceae (Century Plant or Agave Family)

Agave spp. • agave, century plant • NOS

Sap

Volatile oil, oxalates; saponin • Dermatitis; GI

Amaranthaceae (Pigweed Family)

Amaranthus spp. • pigweeds • IH

All parts

Nitrates, oxalates (?) • GI

Anacardiaceae (Cashew Family)

Anacardium occidentale • cashew nut • FP

Cotinus anagyroides • smoke bush • OS

Mangifera indica • mango • FP

Metopium toxiferum • poison wood • NT

Schinus spp. • pepper tree • OT

Toxicodendron diversilobum • poison-oak • NSV

Toxicodendron pubescens • Atlantic poison-oak • NS

Toxicodendron radicans • poison-ivy • NSV

Toxicodendron rydbergii • western poison-oak • NS

Toxicodendron vernix • poison-sumac • NS

Fruits

All parts

Fruits

All parts

Fruits

All parts

All parts

All parts

All parts

All parts

Anacardic acid • Dermatitis

Urushiol (catechols) • Dermatitis

Urushiol (catechols) • Dermatitis

Urushiol (catechols) • Dermatitis

Triterpenes • Dermatitis; M & T; GI

Urushiol (catechols) • Dermatitis

Urushiol (catechols) • Dermatitis

Urushiol (catechols) • Dermatitis

Urushiol (catechols) • Dermatitis

Urushiol (catechols) • Dermatitis

Annonaceae (Annona Family)

Asimina triloba • paw paw • NT

Fruits

Unknown • Dermatitis

Apocynaceae (Dogbane Family)

Acokanthera spp. • Bushman's poison • IOST

Adenium obesum • impala-lily, desert-rose • IOS

Allamanda cathartica • golden trumpet • IOV

Angadenia berterii • pineland-allamanda • NV

Apocynum spp. • dogbane, Indian-hemp • NH

Asclepias ssp. • milkweeds • NOH

Calotropis ssp. • crown flower • OS

Catharanthus roseus • periwinkle • OH

Cryptostegia ssp. • rubber vine • OV

All, esp. seeds!

All parts

All parts

Latex

All parts

All parts

Latex

All parts

All parts

Ouabin and related glycosides • GI and CV

Cardiac glycosides • CV failure

Glycosides • CV failure; GI

Unknown • Dermatitis; GI

Apocynamarin + glycosides • CV failure; GI

Resinoids • CNS and GI

Calcium oxalate; cardiac glycosides • Dermatitis

Glycosides • CV failure; GI

Digitalis-like glycoside • GI and CV

Mahonia ssp. • Oregon grape • NS Podophyllum peltatum • May-apple • NH	All parts All parts	Alkaloids • GI; muscular/uterine contractions Lignans • GI; mitotic poison; herbal remedy
Bignoniaceae (Catalpa Family) Campsis radicans • trumpet creeper • NV	Leaves, flowers	Unknown • Dermatitis
Boraginaceae (Borage Family) Amsinckia intermedia • fiddleneck • NH Cynoglossum officinale • hound's tongue • IH Echium ssp. • viper's bugloss • IOHS Heliotropium ssp. • heliotrope • IOH Symphytum ssp. • comfrey • IH, MP	Seeds All parts All parts All parts All parts	Pyrrolizidine alkaloids • CNS; GI; liver failure Cynoglossine, etc • (alkaloids) • GI; respiratory Pyrrolizidine alkaloids • Liver failure; GI Pyrrolizidine alkaloids • Liver failure; GI Pyrrolizidine alkaloids • Liver failure; GI
Bromeliaceae (Bromeliad Family) Ananas comosus • pineapple • IOH, FP	All parts, esp. sap	Bromelain (proteolytic enzyme) • Dermatitis
Buxaceae (Boxwood Family) Buxus sempervirens • boxwood • IOS	All, especially foliage	Buxine (alkaloid) • GI; CNS and respiratory
Cactaceae (Cactus Family) Cereus grandiflorus • night-blooming cereus • IOH Lophophora williamsii • peyote • NH	All parts Aerial portion	Unknown (digitalis-like) • CV Mescaline, etc • (alkaloids) • CNS and GI
Calycanthaceae (Spice Bush Family) Calycanthus ssp. • spice bush • NS	Seeds	Calycanthin (alkaloid) • Convulsions; CV
Campanulaceae (Harebell Family) Lobelia ssp. • lobelia, Indian tobacco • NOH	All parts	Lobeline (alkaloid) • CNS and GI; herbal remedy
Cannabaceae (Hemp Family) Cannabis sativa • marijuana, pot, hemp • IH Humulus lupulus • hops • IOV, FP	Leaves, bracts Bracts	Tetrahydrocannabinols (resins) • CNS; respiratory None • Occupational dermatitis in hops pickers
Caprifoliaceae (Honeysuckle Family) Lonicera ssp. • honeysuckle • NOV Sambucus ssp. • elderberry • NOS Symphoricarpos ssp. • snowberry • NS	Fruits All parts, esp. root/rhizome Fruits	Unknown • GI; CV and respiratory HCN glycosides and alkaloids • GI Unknown • GI

Caryophyllaceae (Pink Family)

Agrostemma githago • corn cockle • IH
 Drymaria ssp. • ink weeds • NH
 Saponaria officinalis • bouncing bet • IH
 Vaccaria hispanica • cow cockle • IH

Seeds
 All parts
 All parts
 All parts, esp. seeds

Saponins • GI
 Alkaloids • CNS and GI
 Saponins • GI
 Saponins • GI

Celastraceae (Bittersweet Family)

Celastrus scandens • bittersweet • NS
 Euonymus ssp. • burning bush, wahoo • NS

Fruit
 Fruit, bark

Alkaloid (?) • GI
 Evomonoside (glycoside) • GI; CNS; and CV

Chenopodiaceae (Goosefoot Family)

Bassia spp. • bassia, smotherweed • IH
 Beta vulgaris • beet, sugar beet • FP
 Chenopodium ssp. • goosefoot • NIH
 Halogeton glomeratus • halogeton • IH
 Kochia scoparia • summer cypress • IH
 Salsola iberica • Russian thistle • IH
 Sarcobatus vermiculatus • greasewood • NS
 Spinacea oleracea • spinach • FP
 Suckleya suckleyana • poison suckleya • NH

All parts
 Leaves
 All parts
 All parts
 All parts
 All parts
 All parts
 All parts
 All parts
 All parts

Unknown • Weakness, incoordination; GI
 Nitrates • GI; abortions; vitamin deficiency
 Nitrates, oxalates • GI
 Oxalates • GI and circulatory; death
 Unknown • Prostration; photosensitization; liver/kidney
 Oxalates • GI and circulatory
 Oxalates • GI and circulatory; dermatitis; death
 Oxalates • GI and circulatory
 HCN glycosides • Cellular asphyxiation

Clusiaceae (Clusia Family)

Clusia rosea • Balsam apple • IOT

Fruit, sap

Unknown • Pronounced diarrhea

Commelinaceae (Spiderwort Family)

Rhoeo spathacea • oyster plant • IOH
 Tradescantia pallida • purple queen • IOH

Sap
 Sap

Unknown • M & T; GI; respiratory
 Unknown • Dermatitis; eye irritation

Compositae (Sunflower Family)

Ageratina altissima • white snakeroot • NH
 Ambrosia discolor • white ragweed • NH
 Arnica ssp. • arnica • NH
 Artemisia ssp. • sage, sagebrush, wormwood • NHS
 Baccharis halimifolia • groundsel tree • NS
 Baileya ssp. • desert marigold • NH
 Centaurea repens • Russian knapweed • IH
 Centaurea solstitialis • yellow star thistle • IH
 Dugaldia ssp. • sneezeweeds • NH
 Erechites spp. • fire weed • NIH
 Flourensia cernua • tar bush • NS

All parts
 All parts
 Flowers/roots
 All parts
 Leaves, flowers
 All parts
 All parts
 All parts
 All parts
 All parts
 All parts
 Leaves, fruits

Tremetol (alcohol) • "Milk sickness"
 Nitrate • GI; vitamin deficiency
 Unknown • GI; coma
 Volatile oils; thujone • CNS; "sage sickness"
 Cardiac glycosides • GI, CV
 Sesquiterpene lactones • CNS and GI
 Lactones • "Chewing sickness;" mechanical injury
 Lactones • "Chewing sickness;" mechanical injury
 Hymenovin (lactone) • CNS; "spewing sickness"
 Diester retronecines • liver damage
 Unknown • GI; respiratory

Grindelia ssp. • gum weeds • NH	All parts	Selenium • Respiratory and cardiac
Gutierrezia ssp. • broom weeds • NH	All parts	Saponins • GI; abortion in cattle
Haplopappus heterophyllus • rayless goldenrod • NH	All parts	Tremetol • As in Ageratina altissima
Hymenoxys ssp. • rubber weeds • NH	All parts	Hymenovin • GI
Hypochaeris radicata • hairy cat's-ear • IH	All parts	Unknown • "Stringhalt," peripheral nerve degeneration
Isocoma spp. • jimmy weed, golden bush • NS	All parts	Tremetol • as in Ageratina altissima
Iva spp. • copper weed, sump weed • NS	All parts	Sesquiterpene lactones ? • Ataxia, hepatic necrosis
Lactuca scariola • wild lettuce • ID	All parts	Unknown • GI; lung, kidney, and liver damage
Osteospermum ecklonis • African daisy • IOS	All parts	HCN glycoside & saponin • Paralysis; respiratory
Oxytenia acerosa • copperweed • NH	All parts	Unknown • GI; liver and kidney damage
Psathyrotes annua • desert velvet • NH	All parts	Lactones ? • Liver damage
Psilostrophe ssp. • paper flowers • NH	All parts	Psilotropin (lactone) • GI and CNS
Senecio jacobaea • tansy ragwort; stinking Willy • IH	All parts	Pyrrolizidine alkaloids • Liver damage
Silybum marianum • milk thistle • IH	All parts	Nitrate • GI; vitamin deficiency
Tanacetum vulgare • tansy • IOMH	All parts	Thujone, etc. (oils) • CNS; abortions
Tetradymia ssp. • horsebrush • NS	All parts	Tetradymol • CNS; photosensitization ("Big Head"); liver
Viguiera annua • annual golden-eye • NH	All part	Unknown • Respiratory, weakness, collapse
Xanthium ssp. • cocklebur • IH	All parts	Glycoside • GI; mechanical; dermatitis

Convolvulaceae (Morning Glory Family)

Ipomoea batatas • sweet potato • FP	Tubers (spoiled)	Ipomeamarone • Liver;
Ipomoea tricolor • morning glory • IOV	Seeds	Ergot alkaloids • CNS

Coriariaceae (Coriaria Family)

Coriaria myrtifolia • shanshi • IOS	Fruit	Coriamyrtin (lactone) • CNS; death
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Cornaceae (Dogwood Family)

Aucuba japonica • Japanese aucuba • IOS	All, especially fruit	Aucubin (glycoside) • GI
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Crassulaceae (Stonecrop Family)

Cotyledon orbiculata • pig's ears • IOH	All parts	Unknown • Paralysis; respiratory; bloating
Crassula arborescens • silver jade plant • IOH	All parts	Unknown • GI
Kalanchoë ssp. • kalanchoe • IOS	All parts	Unknown • Respiratory; paralysis; convulsions

Cruciferae (Mustard Family)

Armoracia lapathifolia • horseradish • FP	Root	Glucosinolates • Severe GI
Barbarea vulgaris • yellow rocket • IH	All parts	Glucosinolates • GI
Berteroa incana • hoary-alyssum • IH	All parts	Unknown • Edema of distal limbs; GI; hematologic changes
Brassica ssp. • mustards • IH, FP	Various	Glucosinolates • GI
Brassica napus • rape • IOH, CP, FP	Various	Unknown (bacterial ?) • Pulmonary emphysema

Brassica napus • rape • IOH, CP, FP	Various	Glucosinolates • GI; liver/kidney damage
Brassica napus • rape • IOH, CP, FP	Various	Glucosinolates • CNS ("rape blindness")
Brassica ssp. • mustards • IOH	Various	Glucosinolates • Urinary ("redwater disease")
Descurainia pinnata • tansy mustard • NH	All parts	Unknown • Blindness; "paralyzed tongue"
Erysimum cheiranthoides • wormseed mustard • IH	All parts	Glucosinolates, HCN (?) • GI
Raphanus raphanistrum • wild radish • IH	All parts	Unknown • As in Brassica ssp.
Sinapis spp. • white mustard • IH	All parts, esp. seeds	Glucosinolates • GI
Thlaspi arvense • fanweed • IH	Seeds	Glucosinolates • GI

Cucurbitaceae (Gourd Family)

Bryonia ssp. • bryony • IOMV	Fruits, roots	Cucurbitacins • GI; respiratory paralysis
Cucurbita spp. • gourds, squashes • IOV, FP	Fruits	Cucurbitacins • GI; prostration
Marah oreganus • coastal manroot • NV	All, esp. seeds	Cucurbitacins • CV, internal bleeding
Momordica charantia • balsam-pear • IOV	Fruits	Saponins, phytotoxins • GI; hypoglycemia

Datisceae (Datisca Family)

Datisca glomerata • Durango root • NH	All parts	Unknown • CNS; GI; death
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Dioscoreaceae (Yam Family)

Dioscorea bulbifera • air potato • IOV	Tubers	Alkaloid and glycoside • GI
Dioscorea ssp. • yams • FP, IV	Tubers	Alkaloids • CNS paralysis; teratogenic

Ebenaceae (Persimmon Family)

Diospyros spp. • Persimmon • NIOT, FP	Fruits	None • Plant tissues congeal to obstruct GI tract
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Ericaceae (Heath Family)

Andromeda polifolia • bog-rosemary • NS	All parts	Grayanotoxins • GI, CNS, and C
Kalmia ssp. • mountain laurel, lambkill • NS	All, honey	Grayanotoxins • GI, CNS, and CV
Leucothoë ssp. • Sierra laurel • NS	All parts	Grayanotoxins • GI, CNS, and CV
Lyonia Ssp. • fetterbush, male berry • NS	Leaves, honey	Grayanotoxins • GI, CNS, and CV
Menziesia ferruginea • rusty leaf • NS	Leaves	Grayanotoxins • GI, CNS, and CV
Pieris ssp. • pieris, andromeda • IOS	All parts	Grayanotoxins • GI, CNS, and CV
Rhododendron ssp. • azalea, rhododendron • NOST	All, honey	Grayanotoxins • GI, CNS, and CV

Euphorbiaceae (Spurge Family)

Acalypha virginica • three-seeded-mercury • IH	All parts	Diterpene esters • GI
Cnidioscolus ssp. • bull nettles • NH	All parts	Unknown • Dermatitis
Croton setigerus • turkey mullein • NH	All parts	None • Mechanically injurious (obstruction)
Croton ssp. • croton • NIH	All parts	Phorbol esters • GI
Euphorbia lathyris • gopher spurge • IH	All parts	Diterpene esters • Dermatitis; GI

Euphorbia maculata • spotted spurge • NH	All parts	Diterpene esters • Dermatitis; GI
Euphorbia marginata • snow-on-the-mountain • NOH	All parts	Diterpene esters • Dermatitis; GI
Euphorbia millii • crown-of-thorns • IOS	All parts	Diterpene esters • Dermatitis; GI
Euphorbia pulcherrima • poinsettia • IOHS	All parts	Diterpene esters • Dermatitis; GI
Euphorbia ssp. • spurges • NOH	All parts	Diterpene esters • Dermatitis; GI
Hippomane manchineella • manchineel tree • NT	All parts	Hippomane A & B (diterpenes) • Dermatitis and GI
Hura crepitans • sandbox tree • IOT	Seeds, latex	Hurin (phytotoxin) and esters • Dermatitis; GI
Jatropha ssp. • physic nut • IOS	Seeds	Jatrophin (phytotoxin) • GI
Manihot esculenta • cassava, yuca • IH, FP	Root	HCN glycoside • Cellular asphyxiation
Mercurialis annua • mercury • IH	All parts	Saponins • GI
Pedilanthus tithymaloides • slipper flower • IOS	Latex	Euphorbol and terpenes • Gastritis
Phyllanthus abnormis • spurge • NH	All parts	Unknown • GI; CNS; prostration
Reverchonia arenaria • sand reverchonia • NH	All parts	Unknown • Liver and kidney damage
Ricinus communis • castor bean • IOS, CP	Seeds	Ricinine • Dermatitis; edematous swelling
Ricinus communis	Seeds	Ricin • GI; agglutination of red blood cells
Stillingia treculeana • Queen's delight • NH	All parts	HCN glycosides • GI; cellular asphyxiation
Synadenium grantii • African milk bush • IOS	All parts	Diterpene esters • Dermatitis; GI
Tragia spp. • noseburn • NH	All parts (stinging hairs)	Unknown • Dermatitis
Triadica sebifera • tallow tree	Seeds, latex	Unknown • Dermatitis; GI; kidney damage
Vernicia fordii • tung nut tree • IT, CP	All parts, esp. seeds	Saponins • Dermatitis; GI
Fagaceae (Oak Family)		
Fagus ssp. • beeches • NOT	Fruits	Tannic acid • GI
Quercus spp. • oaks • NOT	Fruits	Tannins and gallotannins • M & T, GI
Gentianaceae (Gentian Family)		
Centaurium floribundum • centaur • NH	All parts	Unknown • GI; frequent urinations
Geraniaceae (Geranium Family)		
Erodium ssp. • filaree • NIH	All parts	HCN glycosides • Cellular asphyxiation
Gramineae (Grass Family)		
Anthoxanthum spp. • vernal grass • NIH	All parts	Coumarin • Hemorrhaging
Avena sativa • oats • FP	All parts	Nitrites • "Grass tetany"
Bambusa spp. • bamboo • IOS	Young shoots	HCN glycosides • Cellular asphyxiation
Bromus ssp. • ripgut grass • NIH	Awns	None • Mechanically injurious (penetration)
Cynodon dactylon • Bermuda grass • IH	All parts	Unknown • CNS; photosensitization; dermatitis
Festuca arundinacea • alta fescue • IH	All parts; fungal endophyte	Alkaloids; nitrates • "Fescue foot"
Glyceria ssp. • manna grass • NH	All parts	HCN glycosides • Cellular asphyxiation
Heteropogon contortus • tanglehead • NH	Callus	None • Mechanically injurious (penetration)

Hilaria spp. • galleta, tobosa grass • NH	All parts; fungal endophyte	Ergot alkaloids; "Staggers"
Holcus lanatus • velvet grass • IH	All parts	HCN • Cellular asphyxiation
Hordeum jubatum • foxtail barley • NH	Awns	None • Mechanically injurious
Lolium temulentum • darnel • IH	All parts; fungal endophyte	Temuline • CNS and GI
Panicum spp. • panic grasses • NIH	All parts	Saponins (?) • Photosensitization; mild liver damage
Pennisetum spp. • fountain grasses, millets • IOH	All parts	Nitrate accumulation • Weakness, labored breathing, death
Pennisetum spp. • fountain grasses, millets • IOH	All parts	Nitrate accumulation • Lameness, weight loss, swelling of jaw
Phalaris ssp. • canary grass • NIH	All parts	Ergot alkaloids; "Staggers"
Setaria ssp. • foxtail • NIH	Awns	None • Mechanically injurious (penetration)
Sorghastrum nutans • Indian grass • NH	All parts	HCN • Cellular asphyxiation
Sorghum ssp. • Johnson grass, sorghum • IH, CP	All parts	HCN • Cellular asphyxiation
Sorghum ssp. • Johnson grass, sorghum • IH, CP	All parts	Unknown • Spinal cord damage; ataxia; limb paralysis; bladder
Stipa robusta • sleepy grass • NH	All parts	Unknown • Drowsiness and stupor
Stipa ssp. • needle grass • NH	Awns	None • Mechanically injurious (penetration)
Triticum aestivum • wheat • FP	All parts	HCN, nitrates • Grass tetany, photosensitization
Zea mays • corn, maize • FP	Stem, leaves	Nitrates • Circulatory

Hippocastanaceae (Buckeye Family)

Aesculus ssp. • horse chestnut, buckeye • NIOST	All parts	Aesculin (saponin) • CNS (ataxia, paralysis); GI; blindness
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Hydrangeaceae (Hydrangea Family)

Hydrangea ssp. • hydrangea • NIOS	All, esp. buds, leaves	Hydrangin (HCN glycosides) • GI; cellular poison
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Hydrophyllaceae (Waterleaf Family)

Phacelia Ssp. • phacelia • NH	Leaves, stems	None or unknown • Dermatitis
Turricula parryi • poodle-dog bush • NS	Leaves, stems	None or unknown • Intense dermatitis

Hypericaceae (St. John's Wort Family)

Hypericum perforatum • Klamath weed • NIH	All, esp. leaves, flowers	Hypericin (red pigment) • Photosensitization
Hypericum ssp. • St. John's wort • OH	All, esp. leaves, flowers	Hypericin (red pigment) • Photosensitization

Iridaceae (Iris Family)

Homeria ssp. • Cape-lily • IOH	All parts	Cardiac glycosides • GI and CV
Iris ssp. • iris • NiOH	All parts	Irisin (resin) • GI
Moraea polystachya • Cape blue-tulip • IOH	All parts	Alkaloid • GI, prostration

Juglandaceae (Walnut Family)

Juglans spp. • walnuts • NIOT, FT	Wood shavings	Juglone (?) • Inflammation of limbs and hooves
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Juncaginaceae (Arrowgrass Family)

Triglochin ssp. • arrowgrass • NH

All parts

HCN glycoside • Cellular asphyxiation

Labiatae (Mint Family)

Galeopsis tetrahit • hem-nettle • IH

Glechoma hederacea • creeping charlie • IH

Mentha pulegium • pennyroyal • IH

Perilla frutescens • perilla mint-IH

Salvia officinalis • sage • FP

Salvia reflexa • annual sage • NH

Stachys arvensis • field nettle • IH

Thymus vulgaris • thyme • FP, MH

Seeds

All parts

All parts

All parts

Leaves

All parts

All parts

All parts

Unknown • GI, sweating, tremors

Volatile oils (?) • CNS

Pulegone (oil) • Respiratory; liver damage

Ketones • Respiratory

Unknown • GI (only in excess)

Nitrates (?) • GI; muscular weakness

Unknown • CNS

Thyme oil • Dermatitis; GI; CNS; CV

Lauraceae (Laurel Family)

Persea americana • avocado • IT, FP

Sassafras albidum • sassafras • NT

All parts

Root

Unknown • Respiratory

Safrole • Carcinogenic; overuse of flavoring

Leguminosae (Pea or Bean Family)

Abrus precatorius • jequirity bean • IOV

Acacia berlandieri • guajillo • NST

Acacia greggii • catclaw • NS

Astragalus ssp. • locoweeds • NH

Astragalus ssp. • locoweeds

Astragalus ssp. • locoweeds

Astragalus ssp. • locoweeds

Baptisia ssp. • wild indigo • NH

Caesalpinia ssp. • bird-of-paradise • NIOS

Canavalia ssp. • jack bean, sword bean • NIV, FP

Cassia fistula • golden shower • IOT

Cassia occidentalis • coffee senna • NH

Crotalaria ssp. • rattlebox • IOH

Cytisus ssp. • brooms • IS

Erythrina ssp. • coral tree • IOT

Glottidium vesicarium • bladderpod • NH

Glycine max • soy bean • IH, CP

Gymnocladus dioica • Kentucky coffee bean • NT

Indigofera Hendecaphylla • creeping indigo • IH

Lablab purpureus • hyacinth bean • FP, OH

Laburnum anagyroides • golden chain tree • IOT

Lathyrus ssp. • sweet peas • NIH, O

Seeds

Leaves, fruits

Stems, leaves

All parts

All parts

Tops, esp. leaves

All parts

All parts

Fruits

Seeds

All parts

All, seeds!

All parts

All parts

Seeds, bark

Immature seeds

Seeds

Seeds

All parts

Seeds

Flowers, seeds

Seeds

Abrin • GI; ulcerations; hemorrhaging; death

Phenylethylamine • CNS; ataxia ("limber leg")

HCN glycoside • GI; cellular asphyxiation

Alkaloids • CNS; respiratory failure

Selenium accumulation • Dermatitis; GI; anemia

Miserotoxin • Emphysema, ataxia, "Cracker Heel"

Miserotoxins • Circulatory; CNS; paralysis

Cytisine, etc • GI

Alkaloids • GI

Unknown • GI; hemolytic anemia; mitogenic

Emodin (glycoside) • GI

Several, incl • lectin • GI; organ changes

Alkaloids • CNS and GI

Cytisine and sparteine • CNS; respiratory failure

Curare-like alkaloids • CNS; respiratory paralysis

Saponins • GI; respiratory; CV

Lectins • Circulatory (agglutination); goitrogenic

Cytisine • CNS and GI

Unknown • Kidney/liver damage; reproductive effects

HCN glycoside • GI; cellular poison

Cytisine • CNS and respiratory failure

Nitriles, etc • CNS; "lathyrism"; teratogenic

Leucaena leucocephala • lead tree • IST
 Lonchocarpus violaceus • violet lancepod • IOT
 Lupinus ssp. • lupines • NIHS
 Medicago ssp. • alfalfa • IH, CP
 Melilotus ssp. • sweet clovers • IH, CP
 Mucuna pruriens var. utilis • velvet bean • NV
 Oxytropis ssp. • locoweeds • NH
 Pachyrhizus erosus • yam bean • IV, FP
 Phaseolus lunatus • lima bean • IH, FP
 Phaseolus vulgaris • kidney bean • IH, FP
 Physostigma venenosum • Calabar bean • IMH
 Pisum sativum • garden pea • IH, FP
 Pongamia pinnata • pongam • IOT
 Prosopis juliflora • mesquite • NS
 Robinia pseudoacacia • black locust • NOT
 Samanea saman • rain tree, saman • IOT
 Sesbania ssp. • coffeeweed, sesbane • NIS
 Sophora secundiflora • mescal bean • NS
 Spartium junceum • Spanish broom • IS
 Stizolobium deeringianum • Florida velvet bean • IV
 Thermopsis macrophylla • golden banner • NH
 Trifolium ssp. • clovers • NOH, CP
 Vicia faba • fava bean • IH, FP
 Vicia ssp. • vetch • NH, CP
 Wisteria ssp. • wisteria • IOV

Liliaceae (Lily Family)

Allium sativum • onion
 Allium schoenoprasum • leek
 Allium vineale • garlic
 Allium spp. • onion, garlic, etc. • NH, FP
 Aloë ssp. • aloe • IOH, MP
 Amaryllis belladonna • naked ladies • IOH
 Amianthium muscaetoxicum • stagger-grass • NH
 Asparagus officinalis • asparagus • IH, FP
 Clivia spp. • Kaffir-lily • IOH
 Colchicum autumnale • autumn crocus • OH, MP
 Convallaria majalis • lily-of-the-valley • OH
 Cooperia pedunculata • rain-lily • NH
 Crinum americanum • swamp-lily • OH

All parts
 All parts
 Seeds, etc.
 All parts
 All parts
 Seeds
 All parts
 Seeds
 Seeds
 Seeds
 Seeds
 Vine, fruits
 Seeds, roots
 All parts
 Leaves, seeds
 Seeds
 Seeds
 Seeds
 Leaves, seeds
 Seeds
 Leaves, flowers, seeds
 All parts
 Seeds
 All parts
 Seeds

All parts
 Sap
 Bulbs
 Leaves
 Stems/fruits
 All parts
 All parts
 All parts
 Leaves
 Bulbs

Mimosine (amino acid) • Hair loss; stunted growth
 Rotenone • GI; circulatory; respiratory failure
 Alkaloids • CNS; "crooked calf disease"
 Saponins/estrogen • Photosensitization; infertility
 Dicoumarin • Severe hemorrhaging ("The bleeds")
 Unknown • GI
 Alkaloids • CNS and respiratory failure
 Saponin, rotenone, pachyrrhizin • Catharsis
 HCN glycosides • Cellular asphyxiation
 Lectins/enzyme inhibitors • GI; blocks starch digestion
 Physostigmine (alkaloid) • GI; CNS
 Lectin • CNS (ensilage only); mitogenic
 Saponin • GI
 Unknown • GI
 Phytotoxin +glycoside • GI; agglutination
 Saponin • GI
 Sesbanine (alkaloid) + saponins • GI; respiratory
 Quinolizidine alkaloids • CNS and GI
 Sparteine • GI and circulatory
 Unknown • GI
 Quinolizidine alkaloids; GI, CNS
 Isoflavones, coumarins • Resp • ; photosensitivity;
 Lectins • Anemia ("favism") in genetically sensitive
 HCN + lectins • "Favism" (hemolytic anemia)
 Lycorine and wistarine (glycosides) + lectins • GI

Sulfides/disulfides • Hemolytic anemia
 Barbaloin (anthraquinone glycoside) • GI
 Lycorine (alkaloid) • GI
 Alkaloid (?) • GI; respiratory
 Glycosides and saponin • Dermatitis; GI; and CV
 Lycorine (alkaloid) • GI
 Colchicine • GI; mitotic poison
 Convallatoxin, etc. (glycosides) • GI and CV
 Unknown • Photosensitization
 Lycorine (alkaloid) • GI; respiratory paralysis

Galanthus nivalis • snowdrop • OH	Bulbs	Lycorine (alkaloid) • GI
Galanthus nivalis • snowdrop • OH	Bulb	Lycorine (alkaloid) • GI
Gloriosa superba • glory-lily • OH	All parts	Superbine (alkaloid • GI; convulsions
Hippeastrum spp. • amaryllis • OH	Bulbs	Lycorine (alkaloid) • GI
Hyacinthoides non-scripta • English bluebell • OH	All parts	Glycosides (?) • GI and CV
Hyacinthus orientalis • hyacinth • OH	All parts	Lycorine (alkaloid) • GI
Hymenocallis spp. • spider-lily • NOH	Bulbs	Lycorine (alkaloid) • GI
Lycoris spp. • spider-lily • OH	Bulbs	Lycorine (alkaloid) • GI
Melanthium virginicum • bunch flower • NH	Stems, leaves	Unknown • CNS; CV; and respiratory
Narcissus spp. • narcissus, daffodil • OH	All parts	Phenanthridine alkaloids • GI and CNS
Ornithogalum umbellatum • star-of-Bethlehem • OH	All parts	Digitalis-like glycosides • GI
Schoenocaulon ssp. • green-lily • NH	All parts	Alkaloids • GI
Scilla ssp. • squill • OH	All, esp. bulbs	Alkaloid and glycoside • GI and CV
Tulipa ssp. • tulips • OH	All parts	Alkaloids • GI
Urginea maritima • red-quill • IMH	Bulb	Cardiac glycosides • GI and CV
Veratrum ssp. • corn lily, false hellebore • NH	All parts	Veratrum alkaloids • CNS; teratogenic effects; GI; CV
Zephyranthes atamasco • atamasco-lily • NH	Bulb	Lycorine (alkaloid) • GI
Zigadenus ssp. • death camas • NH	All parts	Zygadenine, etc. • GI; vasomotor collapse; M & T
Linaceae (Flax Family)		
Linum usitatissimum • flax • IOH, CP	All parts	HCN glycosides • Cellular asphyxiation
Loganiaceae (Logania Family)		
Gelsemium sempervirens • yellow jessamine • NV, O	All, including honey	Gelsemine, etc. (indole alks) • Resp.; CNS
Spigelia ssp. • pinkroot • NMH	All parts	Spigeline • GI; convulsions
Strychnos nux-vomica • nux vomica • IT	Seeds	Strychnine (alkaloid) • CNS (tetanic seizures)
Lythraceae (Loosestrife Family)		
Heimia salicifolia • sinicuichi • IOS	All parts	Cryogenine, etc. (quinolizidine alkaloids) • CNS
Magnoliaceae (Magnolia Family)		
Illicium anisatum • star anise • IOT	All parts	Unknown • GI; coma; convulsions
Magnolia grandiflora • bull bay, magnolia • NOT	Wood, leaves	Lactone (?) • Dermatitis
Malvaceae (Mallow Family)		
Gossypium ssp. • cotton • IH, CP	Seeds	Gossypol (pigment); GI; cardiac failure; male sterility
Malva parviflora • cheeseweed • IH	All parts	Fatty acids • CNS disturbances; "shivers"
Meliaceae (Chinaberry Family)		
Melia azedarach • Chinaberry tree • IOT	All, esp. fruits	Triterpenoid neurotoxin • CNS, GI; death

Swietenia mahagoni • mahogany • NT	Seeds	Unknown • GI and CV
Melanthaceae (Melianthus Family) Melianthus ssp. • honeybush • IOS	All parts	Bufadienolides (glycosides) • CV; death
Menispermaceae (Moonseed Family) Cocculus spp. • snail seed, coral bead • IV Menispermum canadense • moonseed • NV	Fruits Fruits	Picrotoxin • GI; convulsions; coma Dauricine • GI
Moraceae (Mulberry Family) Ficus ssp. • fig • IOSVT, FP Maclura pomifera • Osage orange • NOT Morus ssp. • mulberry • IOT, FP	Sap Fruits Sap	Ficin (enzyme)+ methoxyypsoresalen • Dermatitis; photodermatitis None • Mechanically injurious (obstruction) Unknown • Dermatitis; GI and CNS
Musaceae (Banana Family) Strelitzia ssp. • bird-of-paradise • IOH	Fruits, seeds	Unknown • GI; vertigo
Myoporaceae (Myoporum Family) Myoporum laetum • ngaio tree • IOT	Leaves, fruits	Ngaione (essential oil) • GI; convulsions; coma; death
Myristicaceae (Nutmeg Family) Myristica fragrans • nutmeg • IT, FP	Seeds	Myristicin • GI and CNS; recreational drug use
Myrtaceae (Myrtle Family) Eucalyptus ssp. • eucalyptus • IOT Melaleuca quinquenervia • cajeput tree • IOT	Leaves Stems, leaves	HCN & monoterpenes • GI; CNS; respiratory Irritating oil • Dermatitis and respiratory
Nyctaginaceae (Four o'clock Family) Mirabilis jalapa • four o'clock • IOH	Seeds, roots	Trigonelline (alkaloid) • Dermatitis; GI
Oleaceae (Olive Family) Ligustrum ssp. • privet • IOS	All parts	Syringin (glycoside) • GI; kidney damage; death
Orchidaceae (Orchid Family) Cypripedium ssp. • lady slipper orchid • NOH	Stems, leaves	Unknown • Dermatitis from irritating hairs
Oxalidaceae (Oxalis Family) Oxalis pes-caprae • Bermuda buttercup • IOH	All parts	Oxalates • GI and circulatory

Palmae (Palm Family)

Areca catechu • betel nut palm • IOT
 Caryota ssp. • fishtail palm • IOT

Seeds
 Fruit

Arecoline, etc. (alkaloids) • CNS, GI
 Calcium oxalate • Dermatitis; M & T

Papaveraceae (Poppy Family)

Argemone ssp. • prickly poppy • NH
 Chelidonium majus • celandine • IOH
 Corydalis ssp. • fumitory, fit weed • IOH
 Dicentra ssp. • dutchman's breeches • NIOH
 Papaver somniferum • opium poppy • IH, OMH
 Papaver ssp. • ornamental poppies • IOH
 Sanguinaria canadensis • bloodroot • NH

Seeds
 Seeds, root
 All parts
 All parts
 All parts
 All parts
 All parts

Berberine, protopine • CNS and GI
 Isoquinoline alkaloids • CNS; GI; circulatory
 Chelidone (alkaloid) • GI; trembling and convulsions
 Chelidone (alkaloid) • GI; trembling and convulsions
 Isoquinoline alkaloids • CNS and GI
 Isoquinoline alkaloids • CNS and GI
 Isoquinoline alkaloids • CNS and GI

Phytolaccaceae (Pokeweed Family)

Phytolacca americana • pokeweed, pokeberry • NH, FP
 Rivina humilis • rouge plant • IOH

All parts
 All parts

Resin, saponin, alkaloid • GI; mitogenic effects; death
 Saponins • GI reported. Toxicity questionable

Pittosporaceae (Pittosporum Family)

Pittosporum ssp. • pittosporum • IOT

All parts

Saponins • GI

Plumbaginaceae (Leadwort Family)

Plumbago ssp. • plumbago • IOS

All parts

Plumbagin • Dermatitis

Polygonaceae (Smartweed Family)

Fagopyrum esculentum • buckwheat • IH, FP
 Rheum rhabarbarum • rhubarb • IH, FP
 Rumex ssp. • docks • NIH

Seeds
 Leaf blade
 All parts

Fagopyrin • Photosensitization
 Anthraquinone glycosides • GI and circulatory
 Oxalates • GI and circulatory

Primulaceae (Primrose Family)

Anagallis arvensis • scarlet pimpernel • IH
 Cyclamen ssp. • cyclamen • IOH
 Primula obconica • primrose • IOH

All parts
 All parts
 All parts

Saponin, glycoside, volatile oil • Dermatitis; GI
 Cyclamin • Dermatitis, GI irritation
 Primin • Dermatitis; GI irritation

Proteaceae (Protea Family)

Grevillea Ssp. • silk-oak • IOT

Sap

Catechols • Dermatitis

Ranunculaceae (Buttercup Family)

Aconitum ssp. • monkshood, wolfsbane • NOH
 Actaea ssp. • baneberry • NOH
 Adonis ssp. • pheasant's eye • OH

All parts
 Roots, fruits
 All parts

Aconitine (alkaloid) • Cardiac and circulatory
 Protoanemonin • CNS, GI, circulatory; death
 Digitalis-like glycosides • CV

Thamnosma spp. • turpentine broom • NS
Zanthoxylum spp. • prickly-ashes • NST

All parts
Bark, leaves ?

Furocoumarins • Photodermatitis
Unknown • Neurological; blindness; inability to swallow

Sapindaceae (Soapberry Family)

Blighia sapida • akee • IOT, FP
Sapindus ssp. • soapberry • NIOT

Fruits, seeds
Fruit

Hypoglycin A & B • "Vomiting sickness"
Saponin • Dermatitis; GI

Sapotaceae (Sapodilla Family)

Manilkara zapota • sapodilla • IOT

Bark, seeds

Sapotin (glycoside) • GI

Scrophulariaceae (Scroph Family)

Digitalis ssp. • foxglove • IOH, MP
Veronica virginica • Culver's root • NH

All parts
Root

Digitalis glycosides; saponin • GI and CV
Leptandrin • Violent emesis and catharsis

Simaroubaceae (Simarouba Family)

Ailanthus altissimus • tree-of-heaven • IOT

Leaves, bark, flowers

Ailanthin, etc. Dermatitis; GI

Solanaceae (Nightshade Family)

Atropa belladonna • belladonna • IOMH
Brugmansia ssp. • angel trumpets • IOS
Capsicum ssp. • chili pepper, etc. • IOH, FP
Cestrum ssp. • jessamine • NIOS
Datura stramonium • Jimson weed • IH, MP
Datura ssp. • datura, thornapple
Hyoscyamus niger • black henbane • IOMP
Lycium ssp. • box thorn • NS
Lycopersicon esculentum • tomato • IH, FP
Nicotiana ssp. • tobacco • NIOH, MP
Physalis ssp. • ground cherry • NOH, FP
Solandra ssp. • chalice vine • IOV
Solanum carolinense • horse nettle • NH
Solanum dulcamara • European bittersweet • IOH
Solanum elaeagnifolium • silverleaf nightshade • NH
Solanum nigrum • black nightshade • IH
Solanum pseudocapsicum • Jerusalem cherry • IOH
Solanum rostratum • buffalo bur • NH
Solanum triflorum • cut-leaved nightshade • NH
Solanum tuberosum • potato • IH, FP
Solanum ssp. • nightshades • NIHS

All parts
All parts
Fruits, especially placenta
All parts
All parts
All parts
All parts
All parts
Leaves
All parts
All parts
All parts
All parts
All parts
All parts
All parts
All parts
All parts
All parts
All parts
All, esp. green tuber
All parts

Tropane alkaloids • CNS
Tropane alkaloids • CNS
Capsaicin • M & T; GI
Tropane alkaloids & saponins • CNS
Tropane alkaloids • CNS
Tropane alkaloids • CNS; recreational drug use
Tropane alkaloids • CNS
Tropane alkaloids (?) • Severe GI
Solanine (glycoalkaloid) • CNS and GI
Nicotine • CNS, respiratory, and teratogenic
Solanine (glycoalkaloid) • CNS and GI
Tropane alkaloids • CNS
Solanine (glycoalkaloid) • CNS and GI
Solanine (glycoalkaloid) • CNS and GI
Solanine (glycoalkaloid) • CNS and GI
Solanine (glycoalkaloid) • CNS and GI
Solanine (glycoalkaloid) • CNS and GI
Solanine (glycoalkaloid) • CNS and GI
Solanine (glycoalkaloid) • CNS and GI
Solanine (glycoalkaloid) • CNS and GI

Thymeleaceae (Mezereum Family)

Daphne mezereum • mezereon • OS
Dirca palustris • leatherwood • NS

All parts
All parts

Daphnetoxin (diterpene) and mezerein • M & T; GI
Unknown • Dermatitis

Umbelliferae (Parsley Family)

Aethusa cynapium (fool's parsley) • IH
Ammi majus • bishop's weed • IH
Anthriscus sylvestris • cow-parsley • IH
Apium graveolens • celery • IH, FP
Cicuta ssp. • water hemlocks • NH
Conium maculatum • poison hemlock • IH
Cymopterus ibapensis • spring-parsley • NH
Daucus carota • carrot, wild carrot • IH, FP
Heracleum lanatum • cow parsnip • NH
Heracleum mantegazzianum • giant hogweed • NH
Oenanthe crocata • water dropwort • IH
Pastinaca sativa • parsnip • IH, FP
Sium suave • water parsnip • NH
Sphenosciadium capitellatum • ranger's buttons • NH

All parts
All parts
All parts
Sap
Rootstock
All parts
Sap
All parts
All parts
All parts
All parts
All parts
All parts
All parts
All parts
All parts

Cicutoxin-like alcohol and coniine • GI
Furocoumarins • Photodermatitis
Furocoumarins • Photodermatitis
Furocoumarins • Photodermatitis
Cicutoxin (alcohol) • CNS; GI; tetanic seizures
Coniine • Cardiac and respiratory failure; teratogenic
Furocoumarins • Photodermatitis
Furocoumarins • Photodermatitis
Furocoumarins • Dermatitis
Furocoumarins • Dermatitis
Oenanthotoxin (alcohol) • GI; convulsions
Furocoumarins • Photodermatitis; dermatitis
Unknown • Cardiac and respiratory
Unknown • Respiratory; GI; photodermatitis

Urticaceae (Nettle Family)

Hesperocnide tenella • western nettle • NH
Laportea ssp. • wood nettle • NH
Urtica ssp. • nettles • NH

All parts
All parts
All parts

Histamines (?) • Dermatitis
Acetylcholine, 5-hydroxytryptamine • Dermatitis
Histamines • Dermatitis

Verbenaceae (Vervain Family)

Aloysia lycioides • white brush • NS
Duranta erecta • golden dewdrop • NOS
Lantana camara • lantana • OS

Stems, leaves
Fruits
Fruits, leaves

Unknown • CNS; prostration; paralysis
HCN glycosides; saponins • CNS; GI; CV; convulsions
Lantadene A & B (triterpene) • GI and liver damage

Viscaceae (Mistletoe Family)

Phoradendron serotinum • mistletoe • NS
Viscum album • European mistletoe • IS

All parts
Stems, leaves

Phoratoxin (lectin) • GI; CV; abortions
Viscumin and viscotoxin (lectins) • GI and CNS

Vitaceae (Grape Family)

Parthenocissus quinquefolia • Virginia creeper • NOV

Foliage, berries

Unknown • Dermatitis; nausea, drowsiness

Zygophyllaceae (Caltrop Family)

Kallstroemia hirsutissima • carpet weed • NH
Peganum harmala • African rue • IH

All parts
Seeds

Unknown • CNS; paralysis
Indole alkaloids • CNS

Tribulus terrestris • puncture vine, goat head • IH
Tribulus terrestris • puncture vine, goat head • IH

All parts
Fruits

Saponins • Photosensitization; ataxia
Mechanical (penetration)

Abbreviations of nativity and growth forms:

I • introduced; N • native,
H • herb; S • shrub; T • tree; V • vine;
O • ornamental; FP • food plant; CP • crop plant (forage, fiber, oil); MP • medicinal plant

Symptoms or syndromes of toxicity include:

Cellular: inhibition of mitosis, stimulation of mitosis, neoplastic growths (tumors), lymphocyte transformation, mutagenic activity (induce mutations)

CNS (central nervous system): headache, dizziness, faintness, weakness, impaired coordination, paralysis, contraction or dilation of pupils, difficulty in breathing, speaking, or seeing, heightened reactions to external stimuli, nervousness, giddiness, trembling, convulsions, depression, seizures, depression, hallucinations, coma

CV (cardiovascular system): changes in pulse rate and blood pressure, changes in frequency and effectiveness of contractions, anemia, agglutination of red blood cells, bluish discoloration of mouth and skin, changes in oxygen-carrying capacity of blood

Dermatitis: itching, redness, stinging, burning, formation of vesicles (blisters)

GI (gastrointestinal tract): nausea, retching, vomiting, stomach-abdominal pain, bloating, diarrhea, constipation

HCN (hydrogen cyanide): weakness, giddiness, headache, blue discoloration of skin, nausea, vomiting, instantaneous collapse, convulsions, coma, changes in the oxygen-carrying capacity of the blood, death, bitter almond odor on breath

M & T (mouth and throat): tingling, numbness, burning, swelling of lips-tongue-throat, loss of speech or ability to swallow or eat

Mechanical: penetration by spines, thorns, etc. of softer tissues, leading to infection or of obstruction

Photodermatitis: same as dermatitis, but with serum leakage into tissues

Reproductive system: changes in estrus cycles and spermatogenesis, sterility, abortions, stillbirths, teratogens (embryological malformations)

Respiratory: wheezing, coughing, emphysema, bronchitis

Skeletal system: curvature of spine, reduced flexibility, permanent contraction of joints, fusion of bones, malformation of bones

SST syndrome: sweating, salivation, and tears

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