

## Information Sheets

### Toxic Plants

Sharpe, P. Toxic Plants, How to Avoid Them & What to Do if Afflicted. Lecture, Managed Grasslands CROP\*3340, University of Guelph. Delivered November 6, 2018.

**\*\*DO NOT LET HORSES EAT ANY ORNAMENTAL PLANTS, FLOWERS, BUSHES, TREES\*\***

#### Trees

Name	Toxic Parts	Symptoms
Avocado	Leaves and fruits	Tremors, death
Black cherry	Bark, leaves, seeds, shoots	Tremors, death
Black lotus, false acacia	Bark, seeds, leaves, twigs	Breathing, appetite, HR up, diarrhea, paralysis
Black walnut	Bark, nuts, roots, wood shavings	Laminitis, edema, colic
Box elder	Fruits (seeds)	Muscles stiff, urine dark, breathing, death
boxwood	Bark, leaves	Colic, diarrhea, convulsions, death, respiratory failure

#### Bushes and Vines

Name	Toxic Parts	Symptoms
Burning Bush	Bark, fruit, leaves, seeds	Colic, diarrhea, heart rhythm, weak
Buckeye	Leaves, sprouts, seeds	Colic, twitching, weakness, glucose and proteinuria
China berry	Leaves and especially the fruits	Colic, diarrhea, seizures, death
Choke cherry	Bark, leaves, flowers, roots, seeds, twigs	Breathing, paralysis, seizures, death
Golden chain tree	Leaves and fruit	Muscle tremors, convulsions, death
Horse chestnut	Leaves, nuts, sprouts	GI pain, twitching, seizures, coma
Kentucky coffee	Leaves, pods, seeds, sprouts	Colic, heart and respiration rates decrease, paralysis, salivation, death
Oak	Buds, branches, green acorn	Colic, dehydration, edema,

	hulls, leaves	bloody urine
Oleander	Flowers, fruit, leaves, roots, sap, stems, seeds	Breathing, colic, tremors/paralysis, behaviour, death
Red maple	Wilted leaves	Hemolysis, colic, laminitis, red urine
Rhododendron	All plant parts, especially leaves	Colic, drooling, paralysis, death
Yew	Needles, seeds	Breathing, heart rate, diarrhea, trembling, death

### Forbes

<b>Names</b>	<b>Symptoms</b>
Bracken fern	Nervousness, circling, staggering, tremors, blindness, convulsions, death
Buttercup, smallflower	Blisters on lips, salivation, colic, diarrhea, twitching, paralysis, death
Curly (curled) dock	Anorexia, depression, bluish mucous membranes, slobbering, tremors, death
Field bindweed (morning glory)	Weight loss, colic, weak and rapid pulse, dilated pupils, convulsions, death
Hemlock, poison (spotted)	Tremors, weakness, salivation, rapid HR & RR, birth defects, frequent urination, colic, nervous, death
Hemlock (water)	Found dead, seizures, twitching, teeth grinding, frothy salivation, tongue lacerations
Horsetail	Scruffy, weight loss, diarrhea, staggering, nervous, unable to rise, seizure, death
Lupines	Nervous abnormalities, excess salivation, diarrhea, breathing, wandering, death
Milkweed	Depression, salivation, reluctance to stand, irregular HR, colic, dilated pupils, muscular weakness, tremors, breathing, death
Nightshade (black, climbing and deadly)	Colic, dilated pupils, spasms, diarrhea, uncoordinated, death
Snakeroot, white (Joe Pye weed, deerweed, deerwort)	Blood in urine, depression, difficulty swallowing, jaundice, trembling, stiff gait, sweating, teeth grinding, death
Sneezeweed, yellowdicks, Spanish daisy, bitterweed	Difficulty breathing, diarrhea, dehydration, blind staggering, rapid pulse, death
St. John's wort	Diarrhea, head rubbing, hind limb weakness, panting, photosensitization, itching
Tansy ragwort, stagger wort, stinking willy, St. James wort	Anorexia, colic, depression, diarrhea, jaundice, red eyes, photosensitization, head pressing, convulsions,

	death
Tobacco	Droling, collapse, seizures, conjunctivitis, coma, pale gums, sudden death

### Legumes

Most legumes are not toxic to horses unless infected with a fungus (dark spots on leaves indicate this)

<b>Name</b>	<b>Symptoms</b>
Alsike clover	1)photosensitization: reddened skin turns to dry necrosis or edema and discharge 2)big liver disease: colic, diarrhea, GI disturbances, depressed or excited, jaundiced skin and eyes, breathing difficulty, death
crown vetch	Anorexia, slow growth, paralysis, death from cardiac and respiratory problems
Leucaena	Mimosine toxin Digestive, and neurological problems
Loco weed, milk vetch	Lethargy, weight loss, neurological damage, over-reaction to stimuli, rearing, head bobbing, hi-stepping, violent, abortion, birth defects
Sweet clover	Lameness hematomas, nosebleeds, death