

Rabbit and Guinea Pig Owners- Guide to Dangerous Plants

Small animals do not always instinctively avoid poisonous plants, always be very careful to identify any plants before feeding them to your pet or allowing them access to them when running free.

Many harmful plants can be similar in appearance to those that are safe to feed.

If you suspect that poisoning may have occurred it is essential to contact the veterinary practice for advice as soon as possible.

Poisonous wildflowers/plants include:-

Morning Glory	Delphinium
Philodendron	Jerusalem Cherry
Rhododendron	Hyacinths
Clematis	Yew
Lily of the Valley	Laburnum
Lupins	Lords and Ladies
Chrysanthemums	Ivy
Iris	Wisteria
Antirrhinums	Holly
Lobelia	Most evergreen trees
Juniper	
Privet	
Fig	
Dahlias	

Poisonous wildflowers/plants include:-

Hellebore	Buttercups
Fools parsley	Ragwort
Leyland Cypress	Figwort
St. Johns Wort	Woody Nightshade
Mistletoe	Deadly Nightshade
Meadow Saffron	Poppies
Marsh Marigold	Anemone
Monkshood	Azalea
Kingcup	Bittersweet
Spurges	Cyclamen
Hemlock	Dog Mercury
Daffodils	Bryony
Foxglove	Caladium
Bluebells	Columbine

First Aid for your Dog

Here are a few tips for how to deal with emergencies while out walking with your dog:

- Always carry your mobile phone and have your vet's number programmed in. Even out of hours, you will be able to speak to someone who can give you urgent advice should your dog become ill or injured.
- Any cuts that cause bleeding should have pressure applied with a clean cloth or, in a pinch, clothing. If you have access to clean running water, flushing the wound will help remove dirt and bacteria that can lead to infection. Avoid using creams and ointment until veterinary advice has been sought. All but the smallest cuts should be seen by your vet to ensure there is no damage under the skin and to determine if sutures are necessary.
- Should an adder bite your dog, veterinary attention must be sought straight away. Use the mobile phone you are carrying to alert your vet that you are on the way. In the meantime, your dog should have its movement restricted and be carried if at all possible. If you live in an adder prone area, it is worthwhile carrying an antihistamine tablet to give straight after the bite. These can be used for insect stings too, so your vet would be happy to advise you on a suitable product.
- Heat exhaustion can happen to any dog even on only a mildly warm day. This condition can cause your dog's core body temperature to become very high, leading to collapse and, in severe cases, even death. Dogs with long, thick hair or short noses are particularly susceptible. On warm days keep a close eye on your dog and stop well before they become tired. Should your dog become overheated, pour cool water over them especially on the pads and head, and wet the tongue. Call the vet, and avoid making your dog walk home or back to the car—carry them if possible.
- Consider carrying a walking first aid kit. This should contain a tick hook, tweezers (for thorns), antihistamine tablets, your mobile phone, a collapsible water dish, energy/granola bars, an emergency whistle and a bottle of clean water.

