

# HILL CLOSE GARDENS

## PLANTS POTENTIALLY HARMFUL TO PEOPLE



Adapted from the RHS website, plants listed are growing in the gardens.

### Plants potentially harmful to people

This list of plants mirrors the HTA (Horticultural Trades Association) guidelines and includes garden plants and houseplants that have been known to cause injury, either by contact or after being eaten.

All these plants are safe to grow provided they are treated with respect. Remember, they are ornamental plants, often very beautiful - they are not meant to be eaten. Avoid contamination by wearing gloves and covering your skin.



*Aconitum* (Monkshood) - poisonous; irritant to and via the skin



*Aloe* - poisonous



*Astroemeria* (Peruvian lily) - skin irritant

Amaryllis - see *Hippeastrum*



*Amaryllis belladonna* (Belladonna lily) - poisonous



Angel's trumpet - see *Brugmansia*

Angel's wings - see *Caladium*



*Arum* (Cuckoo-pint, lords-and-ladies) - poisonous; skin & eye irritant

*Asparagus* (Asparagus fern) - may cause skin allergy, fruits poisonous  
Asparagus fern See *Asparagus*





***Atropa*** (*Deadly Nightshade*) - *poisonous; skin irritant*

Autumn crocus See *Colchicum*

Belladonna lily - see *Amaryllis belladonna*

Bluebell - see *Hyacinthoides*



***Brugmansia*** (Angel's trumpet) - *poisonous*

Buckthorn See *Rhamnus*

Calla lily - see *Zantedeschia*



***Capsicum annum*** (Ornamental pepper cultivars)- *skin & eye irritant; poisonous*

Castor oil plant - see *Ricinus communis*

Cherry laurel - see *Prunus laurocerasus*



***Chrysanthemum*** - *skin irritant*



***Colchicum*** (Autumn crocus) - *poisonous*

Comfrey, Russian comfrey - see *Symphytum*



***Convallaria majalis*** (Lily-of-the-valley) - *poisonous*

Cuckoo-pint - see *Arum*



x *Cupressocyparis leylandii* (Leyland cypress) - skin irritant

Daffodil - see *Narcissus*



*Daphne* (Mezereon, Spurge laurel) - poisonous; skin irritant



*Datura* (thornapple) - poisonous; skin irritant



*Delphinium* including *Consolida* (Larkspur) - poisonous



*Digitalis* (foxglove) - poisonous



*Echium* - skin irritant



Elder - see *Sambucus*



*Euonymus* (Spindle tree) - somewhat poisonous





***Euphorbia*** (Spurge, poinsettia) - poisonous; skin & eye irritant,  
NB: poinsettia, *E. pulcherrima*, is not harmful

***Ficus benjamina*** (Weeping fig) - may cause skin allergy



***Ficus carica*** (fig) - skin & eye irritant  
Fig - see *Ficus*

Four o'clock plant - see *Mirabilis*

Foxglove - see *Digitalis*



***Hedera*** (ivy) - somewhat poisonous; skin irritant



***Helleborus*** (Christmas rose, Lenten rose) - somewhat poisonous;  
skin irritant



***Hippeastrum*** (Amaryllis) - poisonous



***Hyacinthoides*** (Bluebell) - poisonous  
eye irritant

Hyacinth - see *Hyacinthus*



***Hyacinthus*** (Hyacinth) - skin irritant



*Hypericum perforatum* (perforate St John's wort) - poisonous



*Ipomoea* (Morning glory) - poisonous

*Iris* - somewhat poisonous; skin irritant



Ivy - see *Hedera*



*Kalmia* (Calico bush) - somewhat poisonous



*Laburnum* - poisonous



*Lantana* - poisonous; skin irritant

Larkspur - see *Delphinium*

Laurel - see *Prunus laurocerasus*

Lenten rose - see *Helleborus*



*Ligustrum* (privet) - somewhat poisonous

Lily-of-the-valley - see *Convallaria majalis*



**Lobelia** (except bedding lobelia, *L. erinus*) - somewhat poisonous; skin & eye irritant



Lords-and-ladies - see *Arum*

Lupin - see *Lupinus*



**Lupinus** (Lupin) - somewhat poisonous

Mandrake - see *Mandragora*

Marvel of Peru - see *Mirabilis*

Mezereon - see *Daphne*



**Mirabilis** (Marvel of Peru, Four o'clock plant) - poisonous; skin irritant



Monkshood - see *Aconitum*

Morning glory - see *Ipomoea*



**Narcissus** (Daffodil) - somewhat poisonous; skin irritant



**Nicotiana** (Tobacco) - poisonous



**Passiflora caerulea** (Hardy passion flower) - somewhat poisonous  
Passion flower - see *Passiflora caerulea*

Pepper, ornamental - see *Capsicum annum*

Peruvian lily - see *Alstroemeria*



**Phytolacca** (Pokeweed) - poisonous; skin irritant



Pokeweed - see *Phytolacca*



*Polygonatum* (Solomon's seal) - somewhat poisonous

Portugal laurel - see *Prunus lusitanica*

Privet - see *Ligustrum*



*Prunus laurocerasus* (Cherry laurel, laurel) - poisonous



*Prunus lusitanica* (Portugal laurel) - seed kernels are poisonous



*Rhus* , (Japanese lacquer tree, Poison ivy, Sumach) - poisonous; severe skin irritant



*Ricinus communis* (Castor oil plant) - poisonous

St John's wort - see *Hypericum perforatum*



*Sambucus* except *S. nigra* (elder) - poisonous



*Scilla* - somewhat poisonous



Spanish broom - see *Spartium junceum*



*Spartium junceum* (Spanish broom) - poisonous



*Symphoricarpos* (Snowberry) - poisonous



*Symphytum* (Comfrey, Russian comfrey) - poisonous



Tobacco - see *Nicotiana*

*Taxus* (yew) - poisonous



*Tulipa* (tulip) - skin irritant



*Wisteria* - somewhat poisonous



Yew - See *Taxus*



*Zantedeschia* (Calla lily) - poisonous; skin & eye irritant