

Deer Resistant Plants?

Every day we get requests for “Deer Proof Plants”, we are quick to respond that there is no such thing as a “Deer Proof Plant”. Deer are herbivores, they eat plants and they sure do not know plant names. Deer herds have distinct tastes and may not eat a plant in one area but devour it in another. Some years they love Photinia, other years they just nibble it. With over 30 years of plant knowledge at El Dorado Nursery & Garden, we have compiled our list of plants that the deer should not eat under normal circumstances. All bets are off in the early spring and the late summer when food is scarce. They are hungry and will eat anything! It is imperative that you use a chemical deer repellent at these times. Currently we have had good luck with Liquid Fence, No Deer Zone, or Bobbex.

Deer are creatures of habit and they follow that same paths and often eat in the same yards. Momma deer shares this information with her young and so on. They are not as dumb as one might think. They quickly know when your faithful dog is locked up or if you have a fence section down. By using a deer repellent at time of initial planting, and throughout the year, you train the deer to not eat at your house. Training the deer help break the habits of dining in your yard.

Please do not feed the deer. We know that they are beautiful, and fun to watch, but the party is over when they devour your rose garden in one night. In well-balanced herds there is enough native vegetation to feed them. Feeding them throws off the natural balance and we know that they seldom remember to read our list of “Deer Resistant Plants”. Thanks.

El Dorado Nursery & Garden Deer resistant Groundcover/vines

Groundcovers

Achillea sp	Yarrow
Ajuga	
Anthemis nobilis	Chamomile
Baccharis pilularis	coyote bush
Ceanothus hearstorium	
Cerastium tomentosum	Snow in Summer
Ceratostigma plumbaginoides	dwarf plumbago
Cotoneaster sp	
Erodium	
Festuca ovina	Fescue
Frageria	Beach strawberry
Galium	
Gazania sp*	
Grevillea sp	
Hedera helix	Ivy
Hernaria glabra	
Hypericum	
Isotoma/Pratia	Bluestar creeper

Juniperus sp	
Lithodora diffusa	
Lotus berthelotii	Parrot's beak
Mahonia repens	Creeping Mahonia
Mint sp	
Oregano	
Osteospermum sp	trailing African daisy
Pachysandra terminalis	Japanese spurge
Phlox subulata	creeping phlox
Rosemarinus sp	rosemary
Sagina subulata	Iris moss
Santolina	
Stachys	Lambs ear
Thymus sp	thyme, creeping, pink, wholly, elfin...
Veronica repens	creeping Veronica
Vinca sp	Vinca
Viola odorata	Sweet Violets
Zaushneria californica	CA Fuschia

Vines

Campsis sp	trumpet vine
Clematis armandii	evergreen clematis
Ficus pumila	creeping fig
Gelsemium	Carolina jessamine
Hedera	Ivy
Jasminum	Jasmine
Parthenocissus*	Boston ivy, Virginia creeper
Solanium	potatoe vine
Thunbergia alata	Blackeyed Susan vine
Wisteria sp	Wisteria

Perennials/Bulbs

Acanthus molis*	Bear's breech
Achillea sp	Yarrow
Alcea rosea	hollyhock
Aquilegia sp	Columbine
Aloe sp	Aloe
Agave	
Armeria	thrift, sea pinks
Aster sp	
Begonia, tuberous*	
Astilbe *	
Aubrieta deltoidea	
Bellis perennis	English Daisy
Artemesia sp	
Brachycome	Swan river daisy
Capanula sp	Serbian bellflower
Carex	sedge
Cherianthus cheiri	Wallflower

Centaurea cineraria	Dusty Miller
Chrysanthemum parthenium	feverfew
Centranthus ruber	Jupiters beard
Coreopsis sp	
Crocoshmia	
Crocus	
Dahlia sp	
Dietes/Moraea	Fortnight lily
Digitalis sp	Foxglove
Mimulus sp	Monkey flower
Delphinium sp	
Dicentra sp*	Bleeding heart
Echium sp	
Erigeron sp*	Santa Barbara Daisy
Erysimum linifolium	wallflower
Euryops sp	daisy
Felicia ammeloides	Blue Margarites
Freesia	
Gallium odoratum	bedstraw/sweet woodruff
Geranium*	
Gallardia grandiflora	
Helichrysum	strawflower
Gypsophila paniculata	Baby's breath
Helleborus niger	Lenten rose
Hemerocallis*	daylily (questionable)
Heuchera sp*	Coral bells
Iberis	candytuft
Iris	
Ixia	African corn lily
Kniphofia	Red hot poker
Lantana	
Lavendula sp	lavender
Leonotis leonurus	Lion's tail
Liriope/Ophiopogon	Liriope
Lupine sp	
Lobelia cardinalis	Cardinal flower
Lamium sp	dead nettle
Mimulus sp	Monkey flower
Leucojum	summer snowflake
Monarda sp	Bee balm
Myrtosis sylvatica	Forget me not
Lychnis	
Nepeta fassenii	catmint
Nierembergia sp	
Origanium	oregano
Papaver sp	Poppies
Penstemon sp*	beard tongue
Phlomis	
Phlox subulata	moss pink
Romneya coulteri	Matilija poppy
Rudebeckia	Gloriosa daily, black eyed susan

Santolina	
Saxifraga	
Scabiosa*	pincushion flower
Scilla	bluebells
Sisyrinchium sp	blue eyed grass
Stachys byzantina	Lamb's ear
Tagetes lemmonii	Copper canyon daisy
Thymus sp	thyme
Tulbaghia violacea	Society garlic
Verbena*	verbena
Veronica sp	
Viola odorata	Violets
Zantedeschia sp	calla lily
Alstroemeria	Peruvian lily
Amaryllis belladonna	Naked lady
Canna	
Cyclamen sp	
Fritillaria	
Galanthus elwesii	Giant snowdrop
Muscari	Grape hyacinth
Narcissus	Daffodils, paperwhite
Watsonia	Bugle lily
Lycoris	spider lily

Annuals

Ageratum houstonianum*	
Calendula sp	
Capanula sp	Canterbury bells
Cathanthus roseus	Madagascar periwinkle
Centaurea cyanus	Bachelor button
Clarkia amonea	Farewell to spring
Coreopsis sp	
Cosmos	
Gaillardia sp	
Impatiens*	questionable
Limonium	Statice
Lobelia	
Papaver	poppies
Portulaca	moss rose
Salvia sp	sage
Sanvitalia procumbans	creeping zinnia
Senecio	Cineraria