



Because Life Should Be Beautiful™

“Deer Resistant” Plant Guide

Deer, like all animals, have certain food preferences and dislikes. Home gardeners living near deer habitat can often take advantage of this fact by using deer-resistant plants for ornamental planting.

The use of deer-resistant plants to minimize damage from browsing has a number of advantages for the home gardener. Perhaps the principal advantages over the more conventional methods of deer-damage control are those of economy and beauty. High deer fences are unsightly and expensive, and noise or odor repellants are often out of place on home grounds. But, deer-resistant plants can be pleasing to the eye and to the pocket book: they provide their own protection and when properly chosen and landscaped, produce excellent results for the home gardener.

Resistance of the plant to deer is related to the availability of other food. If there is an adequate supply of natural browse in the deer's usual feeding ground, the gardener's ornamental plantings may be largely untouched; if natural food supplies are low, there will be an increased browsing in domestic gardens; if there is an extreme shortage of natural food, few if any plant species are totally resistant to deer. A heavy deer population also increases competition for food, with the result that plants relatively unpalatable in an area where deer are not numerous will be readily browsed in an area where deer abound.

Various factors can make a plant resistant to deer. Many of the most resistant plants (such as Oleander) are poisonous, some at all times and others only at certain stages of growth. Palatability of non-toxic plants also varies with plant age and with the seasons. Experience in years of drought shows that “lists” are of little value—these children of nature will eventually become desperate enough to eat (or try to eat) anything!!

Because of these factors, the following list of deer-resistant plants should be considered as a general guide only; under conditions such as those mentioned, deer will sometimes browse some of the plants listed—as they will sometimes avoid plants not listed.

A Note About The Asterisks

We submitted this list to several of our local garden experts, they have rated some plants according to their own experiences. The rating system is as follows:

* Slightly more resistant

** Somewhat more resistant

*** Very resistant

When shopping at Orchard, be sure to look for this symbol  on our plant signs. It indicates species and/or varieties which have shown some level of deer-resistance.

Please note that the introduction of many new varieties and cultivars make it impossible to list all the plants which show deer resistance, therefore, we at Orchard are always interested in the direct experience of our customers and greatly appreciate your input so that we can keep this list locally accurate and up-to-date.

Good luck and happy gardening.

Rev. 8/31/2006

Botanical Name

Common Name

Trees

Abies spp. **	Fir	Cercis occidentalis **	Western Redbud
Acacia spp.	Acacia, Wattle	Cinnamomum camphora	Camphor Tree
Acer circinatum ***	Vine Maple	Cornus capitata **	Evergreen Dogwood
Acer negundo	Box Elder	Cornus florida **	Flowering Dogwood, Eastern Dogwood
Acer palmatum ***	Japanese Maple	Crataegus spp.	Hawthorn
Aesculus californica	California Buckeye	Cryptomeria japonica	Plum Cedar
Agonis flexuosa	Peppermint Tree, Australian Willow Myrtle	Cupressus spp.	Cypress
Albizia julibrissin	Silk Tree	Diospyros virginiana	American Persimmon
Alnus cordata	Italian Alder	Eriobotrya deflexa	Bronze Loquat
Aracaria spp. ***	Norfolk Island Pine and others	Eucalyptus spp. ***	Eucalyptus, Gum, Mallee
Arbutus menziesii *	Madrone	Ficus carica	Fruiting Fig
Brachychiton populneus	Bottle Tree	Ficus spp.	Ornamental Fig
Callistemon ***	Bottlebrush	Fraxinus velutina	Modesto Ash
Calocedrus decurrens ***	Incense Cedar	Geijera parvifolia	Australian Willow
Casuarina stricta	Drooping She-Oak, Coast Beefwood	Ginkgo biloba	Maiden Hair Tree
Catalpa bignonioides	Common Catalpa	Gleditsia	Locust
Cedrus spp. ***	Cedar	Grevillea robusta	Silk Oak
Ceratonia siliqua	Carob, St. John's Bread	Hakea laurina	Sea Urchin Tree
		Juglans spp.	Walnut
		Lagerstroemia indica **	Crepe Myrtle
		Larix decidua	European Larch

Trees (cont.)

Laurus nobilis	Grecian Laurel	Coleonema pulchrum ***	Pink Breath Of Heaven
Ligustrum lucidum	Glossy Privet	Comarostaphylis diversifolia.....	Summer Holly
Liquidamber styraciflua.....	Sweet Gum	Convolvulus cneorum *	Bush Morning Glory
Lithocarpus densiflorus **	Tanbark Oak	Coprosma kirkii ***	
Lyonothamnus floribundus	Catalina Ironwood	Coprosma repens	Mirror Plant
Magnolia spp. ***	Southern Magnolia, Saucer Magnolia etc...	Cordyline australis	Giant Dracena
Maytenus boaria	Mayten Tree	Corokia cotoneaster	
Melaleuca spp.	Paperbark	Correa spp. **	Australian Fuchsia
Melia azedarach.....	Chinaberry	Cortaderia selloana ***	Pampas Grass
Metrosideros excelsa	New Zealand Christmas Tree	Corylus cornuta var. californica **	Western Hazelnut
Myoporum laetum		Cotinus coggygria.....	Smoke Tree
Olea europaea ***	Olive	Cotoneaster buxifolia	
Parkinsonia aculeata.....	Jerusalem Thorn, Mexican Palo Verde	Cupressus spp.	Cypress
Paulownia tomentosa	Empress Tree	Cycas ***	Sago Palm
Picea spp. ***	Spruce	Cytisus scoparius *	Scotch Broom
Pinus spp. ***	Pine	Daphne spp. ***	Winter Daphne
Pistacia chinensis	Chinese Pistache	Dendromecon spp. *	Bush Poppy
Platanus racemosa	California Sycamore	Diosma ericoides ***	Breath Of Heaven
Podocarpus spp.	Fern Pine, Yew Pine and others	Dodonaea viscosa **	Hopseed Bush
Pseudotsuga menziesii	Douglas Fir	Dracaena spp.	Dragon Palm
Quercus agrifolia **	Coast Live Oak	Echium fastuosum	Pride Of Madeira
Quercus spp. **	Oak	Elaeagnus pungens ***	Silverberry
Rhus spp.	Sumac	Erica spp.	Heath
Robinia pseudoacacia.....	Black Locust	Eriogonum spp.	Wild Buckwheat, St. Catherine's Lace
Schinus molle ***	California Pepper Tree	Erythea armata.....	Mexican Blue Palm
Sequoia sempervirens	Coast Redwood	Erythea edulis.....	Guadalupe Palm
Sequoia giganteum	Giant Sequoia	Escallonia spp. *	
Sorbus aucuparia	European Mountain Ash	Euonymus japonica	Evergreen Euonymus
Tamarix aphylla.....	Athel Tree	Feijoa sellowiana **	Pineapple Guava
Thuja plicata	Western Red Cedar	Ferns (except Pellaea) ***	
Umbellularia californica ***	California Laurel, Bay, Oregon Myrtle	Forsythia ovata **	Golden Bells

Shrubs and Palms

Adenostoma fasciculatum.....	Prostrate Chamise	Garrya elliptica, G. fremontii.....	Silktassel
Agave spp.		Gaultheria shallon ***	Salal
Aloe spp.		Genista monosperma	Bridal Veil Broom
Alcea rosea	Hollyhock	Grevillea spp. ***	
Alyogyne huegelii **	Blue Hibiscus	Griselinia lucida	
Andromeda polifolia	Bog Rosemary	Hakea suaveolens ***	Sweet Hakea
Aronia arbutifolia.....	Red Chokeberry	Hebe buxifolia	Boxleaf Hebe
Arbutus unedo *	Strawberry Tree	Heteromeles arbutifolia **	Toyon, Christmas Berry, California Holly
Arctostaphylos 'H. McMinn', 'Bakeri', 'Dr. Hurd' ***	Manzanita	Ilex spp. (except thornless) **	Holly
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi ***	Bearberry, Kinnikinnick	Lochroma cyaneum	
Atriplex spp.	Saltbush, Quail Bush, etc..	Juniperus spp. ***	Juniper
Bamboos		Kerria japonica	
Beaucarnea recurvata	Pony Tail, Bottle Palm	Kolkwitzia amabilis.....	Beauty Bush
Berberis spp. ***	Barberry	Lavandula spp. ***	Lavender
Brugmansia	Angel's Trumpet, Datura	Leptospermum spp. ***	New Zealand Tea Tree, etc.
Buddleia spp.	Butterfly Bush, Summer Lilac	Leucophyllum frutescens	Texas Ranger, Texas Sage
Buxus spp. *	Boxwood	Ligustrum japonicum *	Japanese Privet, Wax-leaf Privet
Cactacea spp.	Cactus	Loropetalum chinense	
Calliandra tweedii.....	Trinidad Flame Bush, Brazilian Flame Bush	Mahonia spp. ***	Oregon Grape and others
Callistemon spp.	Bottlebrush	Melaleuca spp.	Pink Melaleuca and others
Calycanthus occidentalis ***	Spice Bush	Melia azedarach.....	Chinaberry
Carpenteria californica *	Bush Anemone	Melianthus major	Honey Bush
Cassia spp.	Senna	Metrosideros excelsus.....	New Zealand Christmas Tree
Ceanothus 'Blue Jeans' 'Concha' 'Ray Hartman'	Wild Lilac, California Lilac	Michelia figo	Banana Shrub
Ceanothus gloriosus (& thorny leafed types) ***	Point Reyes Ceanothus	Myoporum laetum 'Carsonii'	
Ceanothus griseus horizontalis	Carmel Creeper	Myrica californica ***	Pacific Wax Myrtle
Celtis australis.....	European hackberry	Myrtus communis ***	True Myrtle
Chamaecyparis spp. ***	False Cypress	Nandina domestica	Heavenly Bamboo, Sacred Bamboo
Chamaerops humilis.....	Mediterranean Fan Palm	Nerium oleander ***	Oleander
Choisya ternata ***	Mexican Mock Orange	Nolina parryi ***	
Citrus **		Osmanthus spp. **	Sweet Olive
Cistus spp.	Rockrose	Philadelphus coronarius.....	Sweet Mock Orange
		Phoenix spp.	Date Palm
		Phormium tenax ***	New Zealand Flax

Shrubs and Palms (cont.)

Pieris spp.	Lily-Of-The-Valley Shrub, Andromeda
Pittosporum spp. *	Mock Orange, Tobira, Victorian Box etc.
Plumbago auriculata ***	Cape Plumbago
Podocarpus spp. **	Fern Pine, Yew Pine
Polygala dalmaisiana	Sweet-Pea Shrub
Prunus caroliniana	Carolina Laurel Cherry
Prunus lyonii **	Catalina Cherry
Punica granatum **	Pomegranate
Rhamnus californica **	California Coffeeberry
Rhododendron spp. *** (except Azalea-leaved varieties)	
Rhus ovata ***	Sugar Bush
Ribes spp. *	Currant, Gooseberry
Rosmarinus officinalis ***	Rosemary
Rubus calycinoides ***	Bramble
Ruscus aculeatus	Butcher's Broom
Sambucus racemosa **	Red Elderberry, European Red Elderberry
Sarcococca ruscifolia ***	Fragrant Sarcococca
Solanum spp. ***	Nightshade
Sollya heterophylla *	Australian Bluebell Creeper
Spartium junceum	Spanish Broom
Strelitzia reginae	Bird Of Paradise
Symphoricarpos albus **	Common Snowberry
Syringa vulgaris **	Common Lilac
Syzygium paniculatum	Brush Cherry, Australian Brush Cherry
Tamarix spp.	Tamarisk
Taxus spp.	Yew
Teucrium chamaedrys *	Germander
Teucrium fruticans **	Bush Germander
Thuja spp.	Arborvitae
Tibouchina urvilleana	Princess Flower
Trachelospermum jasminoides	Star Jasmine
Trachycarpus fortunei	Windmill Palm
Tricostema lanatum ***	Woolly Blue Curls
Vaccinium ovatum *	Evergreen Huckleberry
Viburnum tinus, V. burkwoodii, V. davidii *	Laurustinus, David's Viburnum, etc.
Washingtonia spp.	Fan Palm
Westringia rosmariniformis ***	Bush Rosemary
Yucca spp.	Spanish Dagger, Joshua Tree etc.
Zauschneria spp. ***	California Fuchsia, Hummingbird Flower

Vines

Asparagus falcatus	Sickle-Thorn Asparagus
Bougainvillea *	
Cissus rhombifolia	Grape Ivy
Clematis spp.	
Clianthus punicens	Parrot Beak
Fatsyhedera lizei ***	Botanical Wonder
Gelsemium sempervirens	Carolina Jessamine
Hedera helix ***	English Ivy
Hibbertia scandens	Guinea Gold Vine
Jasminum spp.	Jasmine
Pandorea pandorana	Wonga-Wonga Vine
Phaedranthus buccinatorius	Blood-Red Trumpet Vine
Philadelphus mexicanus	Evergreen Mock Orange
Polygonum aubertii	Silver Lace Vine
Solandra maxima	Cup-Of-Gold Vine
Solanum jasminoides ***	Potato Vine
Tecomaria capensis	Cape Honeysuckle
Trachelospermum jasminoides ***	Star Jasmine
Wisteria spp.	

Perennials, Bulbs and Ground Covers

Acanthus mollis	Bear's Breach
Achillea spp. ***	Yarrow
Aconitum	Aconite, Monkshood
Ajuga reptans **	Carpet Bugle
Allium (including Chives) ***	Onion
Alstroemeria *	Peruvian Lily
Amaryllis belladonna **	Belladonna Lily, Naked Lady
Anemone hybrida	Japanese Anemone, Windflower
Aquilegia	Columbine
Arabis spp. ***	Rockcress
Arctotis stoechaldifolia	African Daisy
Armeria maritima **	Common Thrift
Artemisia spp. ***	Wormwood, Sagebrush, etc.
Arum	
Arundo donax	Giant Reed
Asarum caudatum ***	Wild Ginger
Aster alpinus	
Astilbe	False Spiraea, Meadow Sweet
Aubrieta deltoidea	Common Aubrieta
Aurinia saxatilis	Perennial Alyssum
Baccharis pilularis ***	Coyote Brush, Dwarf Chaparral Broom
Begonia tuberhybrida	Tuberous Begonia
Bergenia	Saxifraga, Winter Begonia
Brachycome iberidifolia	Swan River Daisy
Brodiaea *	
Calocephalus brownii	Cushion Bush
Campanula spp.	Bellflower
Carex ***	Sedge
Centaurea spp.	Dusty Miller, Cornflower, Bachelor's Button
Centranthus ruber	Jupiter's Beard
Cerastium tomentosum	Snow-In-Summer
Cerastostigma plumbaginoides	Dwarf Plumbago
Chieranthus (Erysimum) spp. ***	Wallflower
Chrysanthemum frutescens ***	Marguerite, Paris Daisy
Chrysanthemum maximum ***	Shasta Daisy
Chrysanthemum parthenium	Feverfew
Clivia miniata	Kaffir Lily
Coreopsis spp. (except C. gigantea) *	
Crinum	
Crocsmia	Montbretia
Cyclamen *	
Cymbalaria muralis	Kennelworth Ivy
Cynara scolymus	Artichoke
Cynoglossum grande	Western Hound's Tongue
Cyperus	Papyrus
Dahlia imperialis	Tree Dahlia
Datura spp.	Angel's Trumpet, Thorn Apple
Delphinium spp.	
Dierama pulcherrimum ***	Fairy Wand
Dicentra formosa ***	Western Bleeding Heart
Dicentra spectabilis	Common Bleeding Heart
Diets vegeta ***	Fortnight Lily
Digitalis spp. **	Foxglove
Duchesnea indica	Indian Mock Strawberry
Epimedium ***	
Eremurus	Desert Candle
Erigeron glaucus, E. karvinskianus ***	Beach Aster, Mexican Daisy
Eriogonum (except E. arborescens & giganteum) *	Wild Buckwheat, Sulfur Flower
Erysimum (Cheiranthus) spp. ***	Wallflower
Euphorbia spp. ***	Gopher Plant, Crown Of Thorns, Poinsettia
Euryops pectinatus ***	
Felicia amelloides	Blue Marguerite
Festuca ovina glauca ***	Blue Fescue
Filipendula rubra	Queen Of The Prairie
Fragaria chiloensis ***	Wild Strawberry, Sand Strawberry

Perennials, Bulbs and Ground Covers (cont.)

Freesia	
Gaillardia spp.	Blanket Flower
Galanthus elwesii	Giant Snowdrop
Galium odoratum ***	Sweet Woodruff
Gamolepis chrysanthemoides ***	
Gaura lindheimeri ***	Gaura
Gazania	
Geranium spp.	Cranesbill
Gerbera *	Transvaal Daisy
Grasses (ornamental) ***	
Gunnera tinctoria	
Gypsophila paniculata	Baby's Breath
Hedera helix ***	English Ivy
Helianthemum nummularium **	Sunrose
Helianthus spp.	Sunflower
Helichrysum spp.	Strawflower
Helleborus spp. ***	Christmas Rose, Lenten Rose
Hemerocallis *	Daylily
Herbs (most, except Basil) *	
Heuchera sanguinea	Coral Bells
Hosta (Funkia) ***	Plantain Lily
Hypericum ***	St. Johnswort, Aaron's Beard
Iberis sempervirens **	Candy Tuft
Iris spp. ***	
Ixia	African Corn Lily
Kniphofia uvaria ***	Red-Hot Poker, Torch Lily, Poker Plant
Lamium ***	Dead Nettle
Lantana **	
Laurentia fluviatilis (Isotoma) ***	Blue Star Creeper
Leonotis leonurus ***	Lion's Tail
Leucosium ***	Snowflake
Lingularia tsuulaginea	Leopard Plant
Liriope	Lily Turf
Lithodora diffusa ***	
Lobelia laxiflora	
Lupinus spp. ***	Lupine
Lychnis coronaria **	Crown Pink, Dusty Miller, Mullein Pink
Lysimachia nummularia	Moneywort, Creeping Jenny
Mentha spp.	Mint, Peppermint, Peppermint, Spearmint etc.
Mesembryanthemum spp. ***	Iceplant
Mimulus spp. ***	Monkey Flower
Mirabilis jalapa	Four O'Clock
Monarda spp.	Bee Balm, Oswego Tea, Horsemint
Muehlenbeckia complexa	Mattress Vine, Wire Vine
Myosotis spp. ***	Forget-Me-Not
Narcissus spp. ***	Daffodil
Nepeta spp. ***	Catnip, Catmint
Nierembergia hippomanica	Dwarf Cup Flower
Omphalodes cappadocica	
Ophiopogon japonicus	Mondo Grass
Origanum dictamnus	Dittany of Crete
Osteospermum fruticosum ***	Trailing African Daisy
Oxalis spp. ***	Wood Sorrel, Shamrock, Redwood Sorrel etc.
Pachysandra terminalis	Japanese Spurge
Paeonia suffruticosa	Peony
Papaver orientale, P. nudicaule	Oriental Poppy or Iceland Poppy
Penstemon spp. ***	Beard Tongue
Phlomis fruticosa ***	Jerusalem Sage
Phlox subulata ***	Moss Pink
Polygonatum	Solomon's Seal
Potentilla fruticosa ***	Cinquefoil
Prunella spp. **	Self Heal
Pulmonaria	Lungwort
Raoulia australis	
Rheum rhaponticum	
Romneya coulteri ***	Matilija Poppy

Rudbeckia hirta	Gloriosa Daisy, Black-Eyed Susan
Salvia (strong smelling & shrubby types -O.K. annuals and tender types -Not) ***	Purple Sage, Sonoma Sage, etc.
Santolina chamaecyparissus ***	Lavender Cotton
Saxifraga	
Scabiosa spp. **	Pincushion Flower
Scaevola 'Mauve Clusters' **	
Schizostylis coccinea *	Crimson Flag, Kaffir Lily
Scilla peruviana **	Peruvian Lily
Senecio cineraria ***	Dusty Miller
Silene acaulis	Cushion Pink, Moss Champion
Sisyrinchium spp. ***	Blue-Eyed Grass, Yellow-Eyed Grass etc.
Soleirolia soleirolii	Baby's Tears, Angel's Tear's
Sparaxis tri-color	Harlequin Flower
Stachys byzantina	Lamb's Ears
Stokesia laevis	Stokes Aster
Tagetes lemmonii ***	Perennial Marigold
Tellima grandiflora	Fringecups
Tolmiea menziesii	Piggy-Back Plant
Tradescantia spp. **	Wandering Jew
Trillium spp. **	Wake Robin
Tulbaghia violacea **	Society Garlic
Tulipa *	Tulip
Valeriana officinalis	Valerian, Garden Heliotrope
Vallota speciosa	Scarborough Lily
Vancouveria hexandra, V. planipetala **	Inside-Out Flower
Verbena spp. **	Garden Verbena, Moss Verbena etc
Vinca spp. *	Periwinkle
Viola odorata	Sweet Violet
Watsonia pyramidata *	
Zantedeschia spp. *	Calla Lily
Zauschneria spp. ***	California Fuchsia, Hummingbird Flower

Annuals

Ageratum houstonianum	Floss Flower
Alcea spp.	Hollyhock
Calendula officinalis	Pot Marigold
Campanula medium	Canterbury Bells, Cup And Saucer
Catharanthus roseus ***	Madagascar Periwinkle
Celosia cristata	Cockscomb, Chinese Woolflower
Centaurea cyanus	Bachelor's Button
Clarkia spp. **	Godetia, Farewell-To-Spring
Cleome spinosa	Spider Flower
Dyssodia tenuiloba	Dahlberg Daisy
Eschscholzia californica **	California Poppy
Impatiens walleriana **	Busy Lizzie
Lobelia erinus	Lobelia
Lobularia maritima	Sweet Alyssum
Moluccella laevis	Bells Of Ireland, Shell Flower
Myosotis sylvatica	Forget-Me-Not
Nigella damascena Love-In-The-Mist	
Papaver rhoeas *	Shirley Poppy, Flanders Field Poppy
Rincinus communis	Castor Bean
Potulaca grandiflora	Rose Moss
Reseda odorata	Mignonette
Sanvitalia procumbens	Creeping Zinnia
Tithonia rotundifolia	Mexican Sunflower
Tropaeolum *	Nasturtium
Zinnia	