

Deer Resistant and Susceptible Plants

Deer resistant plants, now there is a conundrum. Deer are very resilient and their foraging abilities rival those of their smaller rodent cousins, mice. Are any plants truly deer resistant? If the deer population is large enough or if forage is limited, they will eat just about any plant, any place, any time.

There are, however, some plants deer prefer not to eat and some that are their plants of choice. That is how this list was compiled. We selected six different university or governmental agency sources from the internet and noted an 'X' for "Resistant to Deer" and an "A" for "Attracts Deer," for each reference that was found. Thus, with a plant like Digitalis or Lamium that has six 'X's it is a good bet that these will not be bothered by deer.

This list is not complete but just for the plants we grow. The sources probably overlap some; that is one person lists resistance and another person copies the work and the myth or fact is perpetuated. So, use this at your discretion, ask others what has worked, look in the landscape. What has been browsed what has not? And above all realize no plant is ever completely deer resistant.

| TREES | | PERENNIALS | | Papaver species | xxxx |
|--|-------|--|--------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| <i>Betula papyrifera</i> | xxx | <i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi 'Mass'.</i> | xx | <i>Penstemon</i> species | xx |
| <i>Gleditsia triacanthos 'Skycole'</i> | xxx | <i>Artemisia schmidtiana</i> | xxxx | <i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i> | xxxx |
| | | <i>Astilbe</i> selections | xxxx | <i>Polemonium caeruleum</i> | xxx |
| SHRUBS | | <i>Baptisia</i> species | xx | <i>Potentilla</i> selections | xxx |
| <i>Berberis</i> species | xxxx | <i>Bergenia cordifolia</i> | xx | <i>Rudbeckia 'Goldsturm'</i> | xx |
| <i>Cornus sericea var. coloradensis</i> | xxx | <i>Caryopteris clandonensis</i> | xxxxx | <i>Salvia</i> selections | xx |
| <i>Forsythia</i> species | xxxx | <i>Coreopsis</i> selections | xxxx | <i>Solidago</i> selections | xxxxx |
| <i>Potentilla fruticosa</i> selections | xxx | <i>Dicentra spectabilis</i> selections | xxxxx | <i>Stachys lanata</i> | xxxxx |
| <i>Rhus aromatica 'Gro-low', trilobata</i> | xx | <i>Digitalis</i> species | xxxxxx | <i>Thymus</i> species | xxx |
| <i>Ribes aureum</i> | xxx | <i>Echinacea</i> selections | xxxx | <i>Veronica</i> selections | xx |
| <i>Spiraea</i> species | xxx | <i>Echinops ritro</i> | xx | <i>Yucca</i> species | xxxx |
| <i>Syringa vulgaris</i> | xx | <i>Eupatorium</i> species | xx | <i>Vinca minor</i> | xx |
| | | <i>Euphorbia</i> species | xxx | | |
| EVERGREENS | | <i>Gaillardia</i> selections | xxx | GRASSES | |
| <i>Buxus</i> species | xx | <i>Galium odoratum</i> | xxxx | <i>Andropogon</i> species | xx |
| <i>Juniperus 'Prince of Wales'</i> | xx | <i>Geranium</i> selections | xxxx | <i>Calamagrostis</i> selections | xx |
| <i>Picea abies</i> | xx | <i>Iberis sempervirens</i> | xxx | <i>Chasmanthium lat.</i> | xx |
| <i>Picea pungens 'Glauca'</i> | xx | <i>Iris</i> species | xxx | <i>Festuca 'Elijah Blue'</i> | xx |
| <i>Pinus mugo</i> selections | xx | <i>Lamium</i> selections | xxxxxx | <i>Miscanthus</i> selections | xxx |
| <i>Pinus nigra</i> | xx | <i>Lavandula</i> species | xxxxx | <i>Molinia</i> selections | xx |
| <i>Pinus sylvestris</i> | xxx | <i>Leucanthemum</i> selections | xx | <i>Pennisetum 'Hameln'</i> | xx |
| | | <i>Liatris</i> species | xxx | | |
| PERENNIALS | | <i>Mahonia</i> | xxxxx | SUSCEPTIBLE PLANTS | |
| <i>Achillea</i> species | xxxxx | <i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i> | xxxx | <i>Hosta</i> species | AA |
| <i>Ajuga</i> selections | xxx | <i>Monarda</i> selections | xxxxx | <i>Rhododendron</i> selections | AA |
| <i>Allium</i> species | xxx | <i>Nepeta</i> selections | xxxxx | <i>Taxus x media</i> selections | AA |
| <i>Aquilegia</i> selections | xxx | <i>Paeonia</i> selections | xx | <i>Thuja occidentalis</i> selections | AA |

Each 'X' represents a source found indicating "deer resistance." Each "A" represents deer attraction.



4343 MT Hwy 35 Kalispell, MT 59901
tel: 406.755.2248 fx: 406.755.2249
www.glaciernursery.com