

# 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>Astilbe</i> selections	xxxx	<i>Penstemon</i> species	xx
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos 'Skycole'</i>	xxx	<i>Athyrium niponicum 'Pictum'</i>	xx	<i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i>	xxxx
SHRUBS		<i>Baptisia</i> species	xx	<i>Polemonium caeruleum</i>	xxx
<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>	xx	<i>Bergenia cordifolia</i>	xx	<i>Potentilla</i> selections	xxx
<i>Berberis</i> species	xxxx	<i>Caryopteris clandonensis</i>	xxxxx	<i>Rudbeckia 'Goldsturm'</i>	xx
<i>Cornus sericea var. coloradensis</i>	xxx	<i>Coreopsis</i> selections	xxxx	<i>Salvia</i> selections	xx
<i>Forsythia</i> species	xxxx	<i>Delphinium 'Blue Mix'</i>	xx	<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 purpurea 'Magnus'</i>	xxxx	<i>Veronica selections</i>	xx
<i>Spiraea</i> species	xxx	<i>Echinops ritro</i>	xx	<i>Yucca species</i>	xxxx
<i>Syringa vulgaris</i>	xx	<i>Eupatorium</i> species	xx	<i>Vinca minor</i>	xx
EVERGREENS		<i>Euphorbia</i> species	xxx	GRASSES	
<i>Buxus</i> species	xx	<i>Gaillardia</i> selections	xxx	<i>Andropogon</i> species	xx
<i>Juniperus 'Prince of Wales'</i>	xx	<i>Galium odoratum</i>	xxxx	<i>Calamagrostis</i> selections	xx
<i>Picea abies</i>	xx	<i>Geranium</i> selections	xxxx	<i>Chasmanthium lat.</i>	xx
<i>Picea pungens 'Glauca'</i>	xx	<i>Iberis sempervirens</i>	xxx	<i>Festuca 'Elijah Blue'</i>	xx
<i>Pinus mugo</i> selections	xx	<i>Iris</i> species	xxx	<i>Miscanthus</i> selections	xxx
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	xx	<i>Lamium</i> selections	xxxxxx	<i>Molinia</i> selections	xx
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	xxx	<i>Lavandula</i> species	xxxxx	<i>Pennisetum 'Hameln'</i>	xx
PERENNIALS		<i>Leucanthemum</i>	xx	SUSCEPTIBLE PLANTS	
<i>Achillea species</i>	xxxxx	<i>Liatris</i> species	xxx	<i>Euonymus fortunei 'Coloratus'</i>	AA
<i>Ajuga selections</i>	xxx	<i>Mahonia</i>	xxxxx	<i>Hosta</i> species	AA
<i>Allium</i> species	xxx	<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>	xxxx	<i>Rhododendron</i> selections	AA
<i>Aquilegia</i> selections	xxx	<i>Monarda</i> selections	xxxxx	<i>Taxus x media</i> selections	AA
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi 'Mass'.</i>	xx	<i>Nepeta</i> selections	xxxxx	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> selections	AA
<i>Artemisia schmidtiana</i>	xxxx	<i>Paeonia</i> selections	xx		

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



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