

# DEER AND RABBIT RESISTANT PLANTS

Jeff Schalau

Although deer and rabbits are entertaining to watch, they can also do considerable damage to landscape and garden plants. Diets of these animals will change with wild food availability and yearly rainfall and temperature variations. Certain plants are sometimes more desirable when they are young and/or well fertilized. It is difficult to predict what deer and rabbits may find attractive from year to year, but this list suggests some plant species which seem to be

less palatable. This list was compiled from observations made by gardeners, landscapers, and nursery personnel in North Central Arizona. There are some products and home remedies that purport to repel and/or discourage these herbivores, but the surest solution to prevent herbivory is to exclude wildlife from your garden using properly designed fences.

## Trees

Common Name	Botanical Name
Fir.....	<i>Abies</i> spp.
Vine Apple .....	<i>Acer circinatum</i>
Japanese Maple.....	<i>Acer palmatum</i>
Albizia .....	<i>Albizia</i> spp.
Cedar.....	<i>Cedrus</i> spp.
Hackberry.....	<i>Celtis</i> spp.
Redbud .....	<i>Cercis</i> spp.
Hawthorn .....	<i>Crataegus</i> spp.
Cypress .....	<i>Cupressus</i> spp.
Ash .....	<i>Fraxinus</i> spp.
Maidenhair Tree .....	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>
Magnolia.....	<i>Magnolia</i> spp.
Spruce .....	<i>Picea</i> spp.
Pine.....	<i>Pinus</i> spp.
Douglas Fir.....	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>
Oak .....	<i>Quercus</i> spp.
Texas Mountain Laurel.....	<i>Sophora Secundiflora</i>

## Ground Covers & Vines

Common Name	Botanical Name
Carpet Bugle .....	<i>Ajuga</i> spp.
Dwarf Plumbago .....	<i>Ceratostigma plumbaginoides</i>
English Ivy .....	<i>Hedera helix</i>
Japanese Spurge .....	<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i>
Virginia Creeper .....	<i>Parthenocissus</i> spp.
Periwinkle .....	<i>Vinca</i> spp.
Wisteria.....	<i>Wisteria</i> spp.

## Shrubs

Common Name	Botanical Name
Glossy Abelia .....	<i>Abelia grandiflora</i>
Manzanita.....	<i>Arctostaphylos</i> spp.
Bamboo.....	Many Species
Barberry .....	<i>Berberis</i> spp.
Butterfly Bush .....	<i>Buddleia</i> spp.
Boxwood.....	<i>Buxus</i> spp.
Fairy Duster .....	<i>Calliandra</i> spp.
Flowering Quince.....	<i>Chaenomeles</i> spp.
Littleleaf Cordia.....	<i>Cordia parvifolia</i>
Cotoneaster .....	<i>Cotoneaster</i> spp.
Dalea .....	<i>Dalea</i> spp.
Daphne .....	<i>Daphne</i> spp.
Brittlebush .....	<i>Encelia farinosa</i>
Turpentine Bush .....	<i>Ericarmeria laricifolia</i>
Buckwheat.....	<i>Eriogonum</i> spp.
Holly .....	<i>Ilex</i> spp.
Joboba.....	<i>Simmondsia chinensis</i>
Juniper .....	<i>Juniperus</i> spp.
Chuparosa .....	<i>Justicia californica</i>
Kerria Japonica .....	<i>Kerria japonica</i>
Lantana .....	<i>Lantana</i> spp.
Lavender.....	<i>Lavandula</i> spp.
Leucophyllum.....	<i>Leucophyllum</i> spp.
Oregon Grape .....	<i>Mahonia</i> spp.
Heavenly Bamboo .....	<i>Nandina domestica</i>
Cinquefoil.....	<i>Potentilla</i> spp.
Firethorn.....	<i>Pyracantha</i> spp.
Sumac.....	<i>Rhus</i> spp.
Currant, Gooseberry .....	<i>Ribes</i> spp.
Rosemary.....	<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>
Sage .....	<i>Salvia</i> spp.
Lilac.....	<i>Syringa</i> spp.
Viburnum .....	<i>Viburnum</i> spp.

## Perennials, Bulbs, & Annuals

Common Name	Botanical Name
Yarrow	<i>Achillea</i> spp.
Agave	<i>Agave</i> spp.
Naked Lady	<i>Amaryllis belladonna</i>
Columbine	<i>Aquilegia</i> spp.
Pink Sea Thrift	<i>Armeria</i> spp.
Artemisia (Sage)	<i>Artemisia</i> spp.
Aster	<i>Aster</i> spp.
False Spiraea	<i>Astilbe</i> spp.
Balsam	<i>Impatiens</i> spp.
Begonia	<i>Begonia</i> spp.
Swan River Daisy	<i>Brachycome iberidifolia</i>
Serbian Bellflower	<i>Campanula</i> spp.
Centaurea	<i>Centaurea</i> spp.
Snow-in-Summer	<i>Cerastium tomentosum</i>
Coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis</i> spp.
Crocus	<i>Crocus</i> spp.
Dahlia	<i>Dahlia</i> hybrids
Bleeding Heart	<i>Dicentra</i> spp.
Fleabane	<i>Erigeron</i> spp.
California Poppy	<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>
Euphorbia	<i>Euphorbia</i> spp.
Ferns	Many Species
Blue Fescue	<i>Festuca ovina</i> 'Glauca'
Blanket Flower	<i>Gaillardia grandiflora</i>
Cranesbill	<i>Geranium</i> spp.
Straw Flower	<i>Helichrysum bracteatum</i>
Daylily	<i>Hemerocallis</i> spp.

Herbs (except Basil)	Many Species
Candytuft	<i>Iberis</i> spp.
Iris	<i>Iris</i> spp.
Red-Hot Poker	<i>Kniphofia uvaria</i>
Dead Nettle	<i>Lamium maculatum</i>
Lupine	<i>Lupinus</i> spp.
Crown-Pink	<i>Lychnis coronaria</i>
Blackfoot Daisy	<i>Melampodium leucanthum</i>
Bee Balm	<i>Monarda</i> spp.
Forget-Me-Not	<i>Myosotis scorpioides</i>
Daffodil	<i>Narcissus</i> hybrids
Catnip	<i>Nepeta</i> spp.
Oregano	<i>Origanum</i> spp.
Oriental Poppy	<i>Papaver</i> spp.
Beard Tongue	<i>Penstemon</i> spp.
Moss Pink	<i>Phlox subulata</i>
Gloriosa Daisy	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>
Santolina	<i>Santolina</i> spp.
Saxifrage	<i>Saxifraga</i> spp.
Pincushion Flower	<i>Scabiosa</i> spp.
Squill (Bluebell)	<i>Scilla</i> spp.
Lamb's Ears	<i>Stachys byzantina</i>
Feather Grass	<i>Stipa</i> spp.
Thyme	<i>Thymus</i> spp.
Verbena	<i>Verbena</i> spp.
Speedwell	<i>Veronica</i> spp.
Sweet Violet	<i>Viola odorata</i>
California Fuchsia	<i>Zauschneria californica</i>



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