

## TREES

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**Black Walnut**

**Toxin:** Toxic principle unknown

**Route of Transmission:** Through bedding, when sawdust or shavings from the tree are used. Poisoning due in part to the ingestion or inhalation of a toxic substance present in black walnut.

**Signs of Poisoning:** Laminitis, leg edema, (swelling), unwillingness to move, depression, colic, and in some cases, respiratory difficulties.

**What to do:** Call your vet immediately. Remove immediately from walnut shavings. Wash horse's legs with mild detergent.



**Black Locust**

**Toxin:** Glycoside, Robinin, and the phytotoxins Robin and Phasing

**Route of Transmission:** Ingestion of tree bark from trees or posts used for fencing.

**Signs of poisoning:** Weakness, cold extremities, dilated pupils, weak irregular pulse, and posterior paralysis.

**What to do:** Call your veterinarian immediately.



**Red Maple**

**Toxin:** Toxic principle unknown

**Route of Transmission:** Ingestion of wilted or dried red maple leaves and tree bark. Wilted and dried leaves can remain toxic up to 30 days.

**Signs of Poisoning:** Severe anemia, weakness, depression, pale mucous membranes, increased respiratory and heart rate, cyanosis, and dark brown urine.

**What to do:** Call your veterinarian immediately.



**Oak**

**Toxin:** Acorns containing tannin. Leaves and bark contain Gallatin.

**Route of Transmission:** Ingestion of acorns, buds, leaves and blossoms.

**Signs of Poisoning:** Anorexia, constipation, rough coat, dry muzzle, abdominal pain, thirst, and frequent urination. Bloody diarrhea occurs as a result of intestinal ulceration and necrosis.

Kidney and liver damage apparent within one week of ingestion.

**What to do:** Call your veterinarian immediately.



**Cherry**

**Toxin:** Cyanogenic glycosides

**Route of Transmission:** Young or wilted leaves are the most toxic. Water consumption shortly after ingestion promotes quick release of cyanide into the bloodstream.

**Signs of Poisoning:** Increased respiration, weak pulse, convulsions, bright red mucous membranes, slobbering and rapid death.

**What to do:** Call your veterinarian immediately.

## PLANTS

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**Oleander**

**Toxin:** Cardiac glycosides similar to digitoxin.

**Route of Transmission:** Ingestion of plant

**Signs of Poisoning:** Colic, vomiting, diarrhea, irregular heartbeat, muscle tremors and paralysis.

**What to do:** Call your veterinarian immediately.



**Water Hemlock**

**Toxin:** Alcohol like cytotoxin

**Route of Transmission:** Ingestion of the root or base of plant, which holds the yellow oily juice-like toxin. Often found along roadsides or barren pasture in wet, rich soils and along ditches.

**Signs of Poisoning:** Violent convulsions within 30 minutes of ingestion. Death if more than five pounds eaten.

**What to do:** Call your veterinarian immediately. Remove plant from area.



**Poison Hemlock**

**Toxin:** Alkaloids and conine, a nicotine like substance

**Route of Transmission:** Ingestion of the root or base of the plant. Often found along roadsides or barren pastures.

**Signs of Poisoning:** Rapid excitement, ataxia, depression and an odor to breath and urine. Death if more than 5 pounds eaten.

**What to do:** Call your veterinarian immediately. Remove plant from area.



**Sudan/Johnson Grass**

**Toxin:** Cyanogenic glycosides similar to cherrin.

**Route of Transmission:** Ingestion of new growth along roadsides.

**Signs of Poisoning:** Urinary incontinence, cystitis, ataxia, and paralysis from nerve damage.

**What to do:** Call your veterinarian immediately. Remove grass from hay or purchase cyanide free grass/hay mixes.



**Milkweed**

**Toxin:** Ingestion of plant found in dry sandy pastures or fields.

**Signs of Poisoning:** Depression, weakness, staggering and seizures that resemble tetanus, i.e. muscle rigidity.

**What to do:** Call your veterinarian immediately. Check hay and pasture for dried milkweed. While some eastern strains are not toxic, it is best to avoid all types.



**Tall Fescue**

**Toxin:** Endophyte fungus

**Route of Transmission:** Ingestion of healthy fescue plant which grows through out most of the year.

**Signs of Poisoning:** Lack of normal signs of foaling, difficult birth because of delayed foaling date, decreased milk and colostrum production, retained placenta, abortion and laminitis.

**What to do:** Call your vet immediately. Remove endophyte infested fescue from pasture and replace with endophyte-free fescue or alternative grass. Remove pregnant mare from fescue pasture and hay three months prior to foal date.