

*Plant Identification Newsletter*

*TOXIC*



*PLANTS*



*Learn The Importance!*

*Identify Plants!*

*Eliminate Plant Blindness!*





# American Mistletoe

Scientific Name: *Phoradendron leucarpum*

Family: *Santalaceae*

Plant Type: *Shrub*

Size: *3' HT, 3' SPD*

Light: *Partial Shade*

Soil: *Slightly Acidic*

Colors: *Green & White*

Origin: *U. S. A.*

Hardiness Zone: *5-9*

Toxicity: *Leaves and berries, ingestion can cause gastrointestinal issues or a miscarriage in pregnant women.*



# Golden Dewdrop

Scientific Name: *Duranta erecta*

Family: *Verbenaceae*

Plant Type: *Tropical broadleaf evergreen shrub*

Size: *2-4' HT, 1-2' SPD*

Light: *Full Sun*

Soil: *Loamy*

Colors: *Blue, Purple, White*

Origin: *South/Central America*

Hardiness Zone: *10-11*

Toxicity: *Berries, ingestion can cause gastrointestinal issues.*





# Piedmont Azalea

Scientific Name: *Rhododendron  
canescens*

Family: *Ericaceae*

Plant Type: Shrub

Size: 3'-6' HT, 3'-6' SPD

Light: Partial shade, full sun

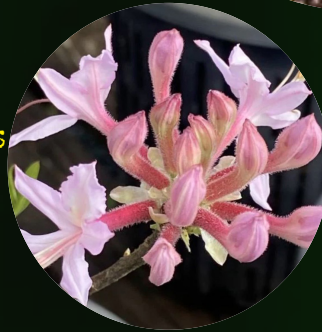
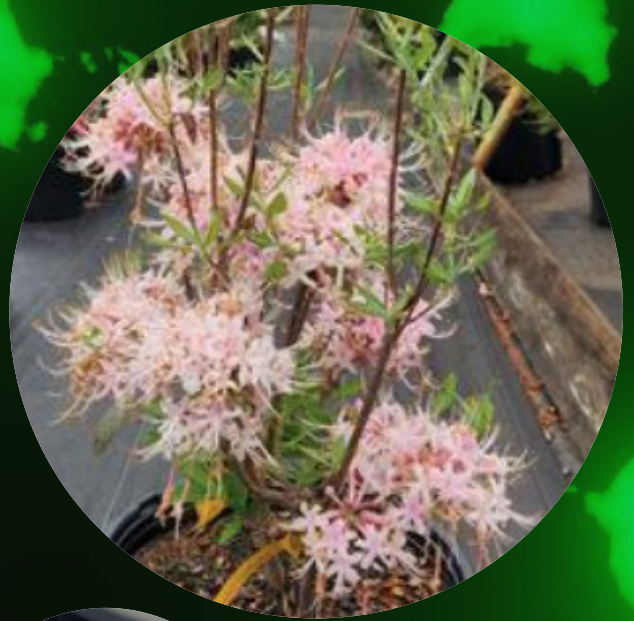
Soil: Well drained, acidic

Colors: The flowers are typically  
pink to white

Origin: Southeastern United States  
including parts of Florida

Hardiness Zone: 6-9

Toxicity: Presence of  
grayanotoxins, causes vomiting,  
dizziness, and in severe cases  
cardiac and neurological issues.



# Corn Plant

Scientific Name: *Dracaena fragrans*

Family: *Poaceae*

Plant Type: Annual Grass

Size: 7'-10' HT, 12"-18" SPD

Light: Low-light houseplant with  
bright, indirect sunlight

Soil: Loose Loamy potting soil mix

Colors: Shades of Green

Origin: Southern Mexico and parts  
of Central America

Hardiness Zone: 10-11

Toxicity: The entire plant contains  
saponins which are toxic to both  
humans and animals causing nausea,  
vomiting, and diarrhea if ingested.





# Oleander

Scientific Name: **Nerium Oleander**  
Family: **Apocynaceae**  
Plant Type: **Shrub, Tree**  
Size: **8-19' HT, 6-10' SPD**  
Light: **Full Sun**  
Soil: **Fertile**  
Colors: **White, Pink, Yellow**  
Origin: **Asia, Mediterranean**  
Hardiness Zone: **8-10**  
Toxicity: **Potentially fatal, One of the most toxic plants, all parts including leaves, flowers, stems, twigs, and roots are toxic.**



# Rosary Pea

Scientific Name: **Abrus precatorius**  
Family: **Fabaceae**  
Plant Type: **Vine**  
Size: **6-20' HT**  
Light: **Full Sun/Partial shade**  
Soil: **Consistently Moist**  
Colors: **White, Violet, Pink, Red**  
Seeds  
Origin: **India/Asia**  
Hardiness Zone: **8-10**  
Toxicity: **Used in jewelry and toys, the entire plant is toxic. The beans can be fatal if ingested.**





# Giant Hogweed

Scientific Name: *Heracleum mantegazzianum*

Family: *Apiaceae*

Plant Type: Monocarpic shrub, tree

Size: 10-15' HT, 4-10' SPD

Light: Full Sun

Soil: Rich, Well-Drained Soil

Colors: White & Green

Origin: Asia

Hardiness Zone: 3

Toxicity: Contains sap that combined with sunlight can cause skin lesions similar to burns and scarring.



# Wild Carrot

Scientific Name: *Daucus carota* L.

Family: *Apiaceae*

Plant Type: Herb

Size: 3-5' HT, 3-6" SPD

Light: Full Sun - Partial Shade

Soil: Well-Drained, Alkaline

Colors: White, Green

Origin: Europe/Asia

Hardiness Zone: 4a-8b

Toxicity: For sensitive skin, contact can cause skin irritation while others might not experience any negative effects.



# Angel's Trumpet

Scientific Name: *Brugmansia* spp.  
Family: Solanaceae  
Plant Type: Shrub, Tree  
Size: 5'-10' HT, 6'-10' SPD  
Light: Full Sun, Partial Shade  
Soil: Nutrient rich, well-drained  
Colors: White, Pink, Yellow, Peach  
Origin: South America  
Hardiness Zone: 9b-11a  
Toxicity: All parts of the plant are poisonous, Causes hallucinations, dry mouth, muscle weakness, increased blood pressure and pulse, fever, dilated pupils and paralysis.



# Lantana

Scientific Name: *Lantana camara*  
Family: Verbenaceae  
Plant Type: Shrub, groundcover  
Size: 1'-3' HT, 2'-5' SPD  
Light: Full Sun  
Soil: Well-drained sandy loam  
Colors: Bright yellow, orange, pink, or red flowers, dark green leaves  
Origin: Central and South America (Invasive but has native varieties)  
Hardiness Zone: 8b-11b  
Toxicity: In all varieties, Leaves and unripened berries are highly toxic to animals. Causes vomiting, diarrhea, labored breathing, weakness, and liver failure.



# WHY DO WE NEED THEM?

The main reason for plants to produce poisonous substances is to have protection from herbivores. Plants need protection just like every other living thing. The toxins the plant releases when come in contact with could potentially terminate certain animals depending on the plant, the animal, and the amount that is contacted. This helps prolong the life of certain plants as well as population control for herbivore/omnivore predators. Humans can be affected differently than other animals and use toxic plants in everyday life. Toxic plants are used medicinally, cosmetically, economically, and in the foods we eat. For example, nicotine from the tobacco plant is sold every day, hallucinogenic mushrooms are used in therapy, cherry and peach seed pits are in the foods we eat, and henna from the henna plant has been used for a long time for beauty and cultural reasons.