

SELECTED DEER-RESISTANT PLANTS

(Native plants are starred)
(Also note: Deer don't read lists!)

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TREES:

Juniper (*Juniperus* spp.)
Sitka spruce * and other spruces (*Picea* spp.)
Sumac (*Rhus* spp.)
Hemlock (*Tsuga* spp.)*
Grand fir ? (*Abies grandis*)*
Cascara (*Cascara sagrada*)*
Chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*)*
Korean dogwood (*Cornus kousa*)
Some oaks (*Quercus* sp.)
Beech (*Fagus* sp.)
Some birches (*Betula* sp.)
Sweet gum (*Liquidambar*)
Japanese maples (*Acer japonica*)
Oregon ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*)*
Pacific yew (*Taxus baccata*)*
Madrone (*Abrutus menziesii*)*

Mexican orange (*Choisya* spp.)
Salal (*Gaultheria shallon*)*
Mountain-laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*)
Oregon-grape (*Mahonia aquifolium*)*
Pacific wax myrtle (*Myrica californica*)*
Oregon-boxwood (*Pachystima myrsinites*)
Mugho pine (*Pinus mugo*)
Rhododendron sp.

GROUND COVERS:

Kinnickinick (*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*)*
Bunchberry (*Cornus canadensis*)
Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster* spp.)
Heather (*Erica* spp.)
Wild strawberry (*Fragaria chiloensis*)*
Sunrose (*Helianthemum* spp.)
Sword fern
Oxalis oregana

DECIDUOUS SHRUBS:

Vine maple (*Acer circinatum*)*
Serviceberry ? (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)*
Barberry (*Berberis* spp.)
Clematis
Hazelnut (*Corylus cornuta*)*
Smokebush (*Cotinus*)
Honeysuckle sp. (*Lonicera*)
Indian plum (*Oemelaria cerasiformis*)*
Kerria japonica
Potentilla (*Potentilla fruticosa*)
Golden current (*Ribes aureum*)*
Red flowering current ? (*R. sanguineum*)*
Nootka/bald hip rose *
Red elderberry (*Sambucus racemosa*)*
Spirea (*Spirea* spp.)
Snowberry (*Symphoricarpos* spp.)*
Lilac (*Syringa* spp.)

BULBS, CORMS AND TUBERS:

Crocus (*Corcus* spp.)
Fritillary (*Fritillaria* spp.)
Garden corn-lily (*Ixia* spp.)
Trillium (*Trillium* spp.)

GARDEN HERBS:

Chive (*Allium* spp.)
Hyssop (*Hyssopsis officinalis*)
Garden mint (*Mentha* spp.)
Lavendar (*Lavandula* spp.)
Thyme (*Thymus* spp.)
Sweet marjoram (*Organum majorana*)
Oregano (*Origanum vulgare*)

PERENNIAL FLOWERS:

Yarrow*
Wild ginger (*Asarum caudatum*)*
Lobelia
Lupine (some native and others)
Daisy

EVERGREEN SHRUBS:

Manzanita (*Arctostaphylos columbiana*)*
Ceanothus sp (some)
Sagebrush (*Artemesia tridentata*)

Coreopsis
Bleeding heart (one native and others)
Foxglove
Globe-thistle
Wild buckwheat
Sea-holly
Blanket flower
Baby's breath
Daylily
Hosta
Iris (several native sp. and others)
Poker plant
Coneflower
Blue-eyed-grass*
Blue flax
Bee balm
Catmint
Soloman's-seal (some native and others)
Black-eyed Susan
Some sedums
California fuchsia

ANNUAL FLOWERS:

Ageratum
Calendula
Bachelor buttons
Columbine (native sp. variable in browse)
Clarkia
Larkspur (some natives)
Cosmos
California poppy
Geranium
Sunflower
Sweet alyssum
Zinnia

HERBS:

Rosemary
Thyme
Oregano and marjoram
Mints
Catmint
Lavender
Bay

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:

Potato foliage
Figs (will eat fruit)
Persimmons
Squash plants (depending on other food sources)
Garlic?

General comments:

Deer experiment with a variety of plants. While some of the plants on the list might be nibbled, they won't usually be destroyed.

Cultivated varieties often stray (genetically) from the species they are derived from. The cultivars may be less deer resistant (or sometimes, more).

The doe experiences her highest nutritional demand in the month before she gives birth and the two months afterward when she is nursing her fawns. She will experiment a lot during this time period, looking for the highest protein and digestibility she can find.

Habits are hard to extinguish. If deer are comfortable feeding in your landscape, they will continue until their comfort level or access changes.