



## Horses and Poisonous Plants

Answers to Name these plants – they are all poisonous to horses:

	<p>Ragwort – horses rarely eat it when it is green (very bitter) but when it is dried in hay it becomes palatable and harms the liver. Horses can die from liver damage if they eat a lot.</p>
	<p>Foxglove – horses rarely eat it when it is growing but it is very toxic in small quantities when dried in hay.</p>
	<p>Deadly nightshade – the name sounds bad but it is not normally fatal to horses - can cause unconsciousness/convulsions.</p>
	<p>Buttercup – poisonous to horses when eaten fresh but they rarely eat enough to cause harm. OK dried.</p>

	<p>Acorns – many horses enjoy them but they can cause colic and poisoning.</p>
	<p>Yew – deadly poisonous and palatable to horses . Just 0.5k can be lethal.</p>
	<p>Box/Privet – can be lethal in small quantities.</p>
	<p>Rhododendron – highly toxic in small quantities.</p>
	<p>Acer/sycamore/maple - seasonal as it is thought that the helicopter seeds in autumn, and the saplings in spring, contain Hypoglycin-A that causes atypical myopathy in horses.</p>