

Deer and Rabbit Resistant Plants

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. Although it is difficult to predict what deer and rabbits may find attractive from year to year, this list suggests some plant species which seem to be less palatable. It was compiled from observations made by gardeners, landscapers, and nursery personnel in North Central Arizona, then edited by a master gardener in Phoenix to reflect the plant palette in the low desert.. 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

Albizia Albizia spp.
 Cedar Cedrus spp.
 Hackberry Celtis spp.

Redbud Cercis spp.
 Cypress Cupressus spp.
 Ash Fraxinus spp.
 Magnolia Magnolia spp.
 Pine Pinus spp.
 Oak Quercus spp.
 Texas Mountain Laurel Sophora Secundiflora

Ground Covers & Vines

Common Name

Botanical Name

English Ivy Hedera helix

Virginia Creeper Parthenocissus spp.
 Periwinkle Vinca spp.
 Wisteria Wisteria spp.
 Lantana..... Lantana spp.
 Rosemary, Trailing..... Rosmarinus officinalis

Shrubs

Common Name

Botanical Name

Glossy Abelia Abelia grandiflora
 Bamboo..... Many Species
 Butterfly Bush Buddleia spp.
 Boxwood Buxus spp.
 Fairy Duster Calliandra spp.
 Flowering Quince Chaenomeles spp.
 Littleleaf Cordia Cordia parvifolia
 Cotoneaster Cotoneaster spp.
 Dalea Dalea spp.
 Brittlebush Encelia farinosa

Turpentine Bush Ericarmeria laricifolia
 Buckwheat Eriogonum spp.
 Holly Ilex spp.
 Jojoba Simmondsia chinensis
 Juniper Juniperus spp.
 Chuparosa Justicia californica
 Lantana Lantana spp.
 Lavender Lavandula spp.
 Leucophyllum Leucophyllum spp.
 Heavenly Bamboo..... Nandina domestica
 Firethorn Pyracantha spp.
 Sumac Rhus spp.
 Rosemary Rosmarinus officinalis
 Sage Salvia spp.
 Viburnum Viburnum spp.

Perennials, Bulbs, & Annuals

Common Name	Botanical Name
Yarrow	Achillea spp.
Agave	Agave spp.
Naked Lady	Amaryllis belladonna
Columbine	Aquilegia spp.
Pink Sea Thrift	Armeria spp.
Artemisia (Sage)	Artemisia spp.
Aster	Aster spp.
Balsam	Impatiens spp.
Begonia	Begonia spp.
Swan River Daisy	Brachycome iberidifolia
Centaurea	Centaurea spp.
Coreopsis	Coreopsis spp.
Crocus	Crocus spp.
Dahlia	Dahlia hybrids
Fleabane	Erigeron spp.
California Poppy	Eschscholzia californica
Euphorbia	Euphorbia spp.
Ferns	Many Species
Blue Fescue	Festuca ovina 'Glauca'
Blanket Flower	Gaillardia grandiflora
Straw Flower	Helichrysum bracteatum

Daylily	Hemerocallis spp.
Herbs (except Basil)	Many Species
Candytuft	Iberis spp.
Iris	Iris spp.
Dead Nettle	Lamium maculatum
Lupine	Lupinus spp.
Crown-Pink	Lychnis coronaria
Blackfoot Daisy	Melampodium leucanthum
Bee Balm	Monarda spp.
Forget-Me-Not	Myosotis scorpioides
Daffodil	Narcissus hybrids
Catnip	Nepeta spp.
Oregano	Origanum spp.
Oriental Poppy	Papaver spp.
Beard Tongue	Penstemon spp.
Gloriosa Daisy	Rudbeckia hirta
Santolina	Santolina spp.
Pincushion Flower	Scabiosa spp.
Lamb's Ears	Stachys byzantina
Feather Grass.....	Stipa spp.
Thyme	Thymus spp.
Verbena	Verbena spp.
Sweet Violet	Viola odorata
California Fuchsia	Zauschneria californica