

Deer Feeding Preferences by Plant Species

This table is meant as a general guide only. Deer feeding habits may vary depending on a wide variety of other factors such as availability of food, snow cover, etc.

Rarely Damaged	
Botanical Name	Common Name
Trees	
<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	Paper Birch
<i>Picea pungens glauca</i>	Colorado Blue Spruce
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scotch Pine
<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	Douglas Fir
Shrubs and Climbers	
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	Bearberry
<i>Berberis</i> spp.	Barberry
<i>Calastrus scandens</i>	American Bittersweet
<i>Cornus sericea</i>	Red Osier Dogwood
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Russian Olive
Annuals, Perennials, and Bulbs	
<i>Achillea</i> spp.	Yarrow
<i>Aconitum</i> spp.	Monkshood
<i>Ageratum houstonianum</i>	Ageratum
<i>Allium christophii</i>	Star of Persia
<i>Allium neapolitanum</i>	Daffodil Garlic
<i>Allium ostrowskianum</i>	Lily Leek
<i>Anemone x hybrida</i>	Japanese Anemone
<i>Anemonella thalictroides</i>	Rue Anemone
<i>Anethum graveolens</i>	Common Dill
<i>Aquilegia</i> spp.	Columbine
<i>Aurinia saxatilis</i>	Basket-of-Gold
<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	Snapdragon
<i>Arabis</i> spp.	Rock-cress
<i>Arisaema thiphylum</i>	Jack-in-the-Pulpit
<i>Aubrietia deltoidea</i>	Rock Cress
<i>Bergenia</i> spp.	Berginia
<i>Ceratostigma plumbaginoides</i>	Plumbago
<i>Cimicifuga racemosa</i>	Snakeroot
<i>Colchicum autumnale</i>	Colchicum
<i>Colchicum speciosum</i>	Colchicum
<i>Consolida ambigua</i>	Larkspur
<i>Convallaria majalis</i>	Lily-of-the-valley
<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i> 'Moonbeam'	Threadleaf Coreopsis
<i>Cyclamen hederifolium</i>	Neopolitan Cyclamen
<i>Dicentra spectabilis</i>	Bleeding Heart
<i>Digitalis</i> spp.	Foxglove
<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>	Wood Fern
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Purple Coneflower
<i>Epimedium</i> spp.	Barrenwort
<i>Euphorbia</i> spp.	Euphorbia
<i>Fritillaria</i> spp.	Fritillary

<i>Galium odoratuim</i>	Sweet Woodruff
<i>Gloriosa superba</i>	Glory Lily
<i>Hemmerocallis 'Stella de Oro'</i>	Stella de Oro Daylily
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	Dame's Rocket
<i>Hyacinthus orientalis</i>	Hyacinth
<i>Lamium maculatum</i>	Deadnettle
<i>Lavandula</i> spp.	Lavender
<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	Sweet Alyssum
<i>Lychnis coronaria</i>	Rose Champion
<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>	Ostrich Fern
<i>Narcissus</i> spp.	Daffodil
<i>Nicotiana</i> spp.	Flowering Tobacco
<i>Osmunda regalis</i> var. <i>spectabilis</i>	Royal Fern
<i>Pachysandra procumbens</i>	Allegheny Spurge
<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i>	Japanese Spurge
<i>Papaver orientale</i>	Oriental Poppy
<i>Pelargonium</i> spp.	Scented Geranium
<i>Pervoshia atriplicifolia</i>	Russian Sage
<i>Ranunculus</i> spp.	Buttercup
<i>Rheum rhabarbarum</i>	Rhubarb
<i>Rudbeckia</i> spp.	Coneflower
<i>Salvia</i> spp.	Sage
<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i>	Lavender Cotton
<i>Scilla</i> spp.	Squill
<i>Stachys byzantina</i>	Lamb's Ears
<i>Tagetes</i> spp.	Marigold
<i>Thymus</i> spp.	Thyme
<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>	Foam Flower
<i>Tropaeolum majus</i>	Nasturtium

Frequently Damaged

Botanical Name	Common Name
Trees	
<i>Abies balsamea</i>	Balsam Fir
<i>Malus</i> spp.	Apple and Crabapple
<i>Prunus</i> spp.	Cherry and Plum
<i>Pyrus</i> spp.	Pear
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	Arborvitae
Shrubs and Climbers	
<i>Clematis</i> spp.	Clematis
<i>Euonymus alatus</i>	Winged Euonymus
<i>Euonymus fortunei</i>	Wintercreeper
<i>Rosa</i> hybrids	Hybrid Roses
<i>Rubus</i> spp.	Blackberry & Raspberry
<i>Sorbus aucupatia</i>	European Mountain Ash
<i>Syringa patula</i>	Manchurian Lilac
<i>Taxus</i> spp.	Yew
<i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i>	Highbush Blueberry

Annuals, Perennials, and Bulbs

<i>Aegopodium podagaria</i>	Bishop's Weed
<i>Aquilegia</i> spp.	Columbine
<i>Athyrium niponicum</i> var. <i>pictum</i>	Japanese Painted Fern
<i>Cherianthus</i> spp.	Wallflower
<i>Hedera helix</i>	English Ivy
<i>Helianthus</i> spp.	Sunflower
<i>Hosta</i> spp.	Hosta
<i>Hemerocallis</i> spp. & hybrids	Daylily
<i>Iberis sempervirens</i>	Candytuft
<i>Lilium</i> spp.	Lily
<i>Matthiola incarna</i>	Stock
<i>Pelargonium</i> spp	Geranium
<i>Polygonatum biflorum</i>	Solomon's Seal
<i>Ranunculus asiaticus</i>	Buttercup
<i>Trillium</i> spp.	Trillium
<i>Tulipa</i> spp.	Tulips
<i>Vinca minor</i>	Periwinkle
<i>Viola</i> spp.	Pansies & Violas

Adapted from :

Fargione, M.J., P.D. Curtis, and M.E. Richmond. 1991. "Resistance of Woody Ornamental Plants to Deer Damage." Publication 147HGFS800.00 Ithaca, NY: Cornell University.

Bartlett, Michael. 1995. "Deer Resistant Plants." Bethesda, MD: Landscape Designs.

Gibbs, D. 1995. "Deer Resistant Plants for the Home Landscape." Chevy Chase, MD: Maryland-National Capitol Park and Planning Commission.