

# NZ National Poisons Centre

## Poisonous Plants in the Garden

### **Identifying Plants**



Calling the National Poisons Centre should always be one of the first steps following any exposure, however, it is very important to identify the plant involved. Different smartphone apps can be used to help identify plants (we recommend Pl@ntnet or Seek by iNaturalist). Garden centre employees, neighbours or family members who are keen gardeners are other options. While the call takers at the poison centre are highly trained, they are unable to identify the many different types of plants on behalf of callers.

### Ingestion



- Many plants can cause irritation to the mouth, nausea or vomiting
- Rinse the mouth and remove any remaining plant material
- Once the plant is identified call the National Poisons Centre on 0800 764 766

### **Eye Exposure**

- Some plants can be extremely irritating to the eyes
- Rinse the eyes under running water
- Once the plant is identified call the National Poisons Centre on 0800 764 766



### **Skin Exposure**

- Plants may cause itchiness, pain, stinging and rash to the skin
- Rinse the area or wash off with soapy water
- Once the plant is identified call the National Poisons Centre on 0800 764 766

### **Most Common Plant Calls**

- 1. Black nightshade
- 2. Arum/Calla lily
- 3. Euphorbia
- 4. Taro
- 5. Stinking iris

- 6. Phoenix palm
- 7. Kowhai
- 8. Agapanthus
- 9. Hemlock
- 10.Buttercup