

Poisonous Plants



We are often asked about plants which may be poisonous to your lagotto. There are several listings of toxic plants available online but they are lengthy and encompass many plants that aren't grown in Florida.

This is a list of plants that are considered poisonous to dogs and cats to some degree that are found in our area. We have compiled this list from the www.petpoisonhelpline.com and the ASCPA websites. This is NOT a comprehensive list and should be used only as an initial and cursory source of information. If you believe that your pet has ingested a poisonous plant, call your veterinarian or your local emergency vet immediately. Asterisks (*) denote a higher degree of toxicity.

The degree of clinical signs of ingesting poison are often dependent on the species, age, breed, or size of your pet; and how much of the poisonous plant ingested.

<p>*Agapantus (Lily of the Nile) Allamanda Alocasia (various) Aloe (various) Amaryllis Angels's trumpet/Devil's trumpet Asparagus fern (NOT the Foxtail Fern) Avocado Azalea Bird of Paradise Calla Lily Caladium *Castor Bean *Chinaberry tree Clematis Chinese evergreen (Aglaonema) Chinese lantern Croton Dieffenbachia (various)</p>	<p>Dracaena (various) Duranta (Golden Dew Drop berries) Delphinium Elderberry (fruit is nontoxic) *Grapes Fishtail Palm Flowering tobacco (Nicotiana) Heather Heavenly Bamboo Heliotrope Hyacinth Hydragea (all types & all parts) *Iris *Podocarpus seeds Jatropha Jessamine Kalanchoe Lantana Laurel, Cherry Loquat seeds Lucky Nut *Macadamia nuts Mistletoe</p>	<p>Morning Glory seeds Nectarine seeds Night Blooming jasmine Nightshades (various) Oak trees (acorns) *Oleander Pampas grass Peace Lily Peach seeds Periwinkle (Vinca) Philodendron (various) Pittosporum Plum seeds Poinsettia Potato plants Red Sage Rhododendron *Sago palm Schefflera Split-leaf Philodendrum St. Johns wort Tobacco plant Tomato plant *Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow (Ytt) Yucca</p>
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Toxic Foods for your Lagotto

Some foods that are perfectly suitable for human consumption, as well as other animals, may be toxic and even poisonous to your dog, posing a serious threat to their health and well-being. All animals have very different rates of metabolism. Metabolism is basically the process of breaking down food and turning it into energy.

Please note that while we're attempting to add every food we can find that is potentially unsafe for dogs, there are certain foods that we may miss, so don't consider a food safe to feed to our dog just because it's not on this list of foods bad for dogs.

Do your research. If you are worried about something your pet consumed, please call your vet promptly.

Here's a list of foods that are unsafe and unfit for canine consumption, many of which are toxic to dogs. Be sure to look below this list for a helpful and shareable infographic to print out and keep on your fridge so you know what things dogs can't eat.

Alcohol

Do not give your dog alcohol on purpose. Alcohol can cause not only intoxication, lack of coordination, poor breathing and abnormal acidity, but potentially even coma and/or death.

Apple Seeds

The casing of apple seeds are toxic to a dog as they contain a natural chemical (amygdlin) that releases cyanide when digested. This is really only an issue if a large amount was eaten and the seed were chewed up by the dog, causing it to enter its bloodstream. To play it safe, be sure to core and seed apples before you feed them to your dog.²

Avocado

Avocados contain persin, which can cause diarrhea, vomiting and heart congestion. The most dangerous part of an avocado is the pit because it is a choking hazard and it is full of persin. If you think your dog has ingested an avocado pit, call your vet asap. If your dog ate a small piece of avocado, it will probably be okay, but make sure you monitor your dog and call your vet for further care.⁵

Candy, Chewing Gum, Toothpaste & Mouthwash

Not only does candy contain sugar, but it often contains [xylitol](#), which can lead to vomiting, loss of coordination, seizures and liver failure.¹

Cat Food

Cat food contains proteins and fats that are targeted at the diet of a cat, not a dog. The protein and fat levels in cat food are too high for your dog, and not healthy. Ingesting too much cat food can result in upset stomach, obesity and pancreatitis.³

Chocolate

Chocolate contains theobromine and caffeine, which speed the heart rate and stimulate the nervous system. Depending on the type of chocolate, amount your dog ingested and your dog's weight will determine how sick (or not sick) your dog may become. Ingesting too much theobromine and caffeine in chocolate may result in: vomiting, diarrhea, restlessness, increased urination, tremors, elevated heart rate, seizures and death.³ Below is a list of most dangerous to least dangerous chocolate to dogs:

- Cocoa powder
- Unsweetened baker's chocolate
- Semisweet chocolate
- Dark chocolate
- Milk chocolate
- White chocolate

Since this is a common item in houses and dogs love the smell and taste of it, PetMD created a ["dog chocolate toxicity meter"](#) to help you know how serious your dog's chocolate ingestion may be.

Coffee, Tea & Other Caffeine

Caffeine is extremely dangerous to dog and within 1-2 hours, your dog could be experiencing mild to severe hyperactivity, restlessness, vomiting, elevated heart rate and blood pressure, tremors, seizures and death.⁴

Cooked Bones

When it comes to bones, the danger is that cooked bones can easily splinter when chewed by your dog. Raw (uncooked) bones, however, are appropriate and good for both your dog's nutrition and teeth.

Corn On The Cob

While small amounts of corn are safe for a dog to ingest, giving your dog an ear of corn can be dangerous. If your dog is determined enough (which let's face it, most dogs are) they will eat the cob and all. The cob can be a choking hazard and can cause intestinal blockage. This could be fatal to your dog.³

Fat Trimmings

Cooked and uncooked fat trimmings can cause pancreatitis.⁵

Garlic

While garlic can be okay for dogs in very small amounts (and even beneficial for flea treatment), larger amounts can be risky. Garlic is related to onions which is toxic for dogs because it kills dog's red blood cell count, causing anemia. Signs may include weakness, vomiting and troubles breathing.⁵

Grapes & Raisins

Grapes and raisins can cause kidney failure for dogs. Even a small amount can make a dog ill. Vomiting is an early symptom followed by depression and low energy. We've heard stories of dogs dying from only a handful of grapes, so do not feed your pup this toxic food.

Hops

An ingredient in beer that can be toxic to your dog. The consumption of hops by your dog can cause vomiting, panting, increased heart rate, fever and even death.⁴

Human Vitamins

It isn't recommended to give your dog one of your vitamins or supplements. Human vitamins often contain 100% of the recommended daily amount of various minerals. This could cause an overdose of a mineral for your dog.

The most dangerous vitamin is prenatal vitamins, which have a higher dose of iron and can cause iron toxicity in pets. If your dog ingests a bunch of prenatal vitamins (or other vitamins with a high dosage of iron) you should call your vet immediately. ¹

Liver

In small amounts, liver is great but avoid feeding too much liver to your dog. Liver contains quite a bit of vitamin A, which can adversely affect your pup's muscles and bones.²

Macadamia Nuts

Ingesting even small amounts of macadamia nuts can be lethal to your dog. Symptoms include muscle shakes, vomiting, increased temperature and weak back legs. If your dog ingested chocolate with the macadamia nuts the symptoms can be worse.⁵

Marijuana

Depending how much your dog was exposed to can affect the level of poison. There isn't much information out about dogs and marijuana but from what we can find, these are the common symptoms: slow response times, dribbling urine, heart rate change, neurological stimulation, hyperactivity, coma and even death.⁴ Read more about [Dogs and Marijuana](#).

Milk & Dairy Products

While small doses aren't going to kill your dog, you could get some smelly farts and some nasty cases of diarrhea. Milk and dairy products can cause digestive problems as well as trigger food allergies.⁵

Onions & Chives

No matter what form they're in (dry, raw, cooked, powder, within other foods), onions are some of the absolute worst foods you could possibly give your pup. They contain disulfides and sulfoxides (thiosulphate), both of which can cause anemia and damage red blood cells.⁵

Peppers

Bell Peppers are okay to feed dogs. Dogs are carnivores and prefer meat to vegetables, but there are some benefits to veggies. For example, green peppers are a low-calorie snack that is packed with vitamin C and beta-carotene. Be sure to chop peppers into small pieces because the outer skin can be tough and difficult to chew. Pureeing or steaming the peppers makes them easier to consume and digest. As with most human food, don't overdo it because too much could lead to sickness. It might go without saying, but never give your dog spicy varieties such as jalapeños or hot peppers!

Persimmon, Peach & Plum Pits

Pits/seeds from these fruits can cause intestinal issues in dogs. Additionally, peach and plum pits have cyanide, which is poisonous to dogs (and people!).⁵

Raw Meat & Fish

Raw meat and fish can have bacteria which causes food poisoning. Additionally, some fish can contain a parasite that causes "fish disease" or "salmon poisoning disease." Symptoms include vomiting, fever and enlarged lymph nodes. Cooked fish is perfectly fine since the parasite is killed during the cooking process.⁵

Rhubarb & Tomato Leaves

These contain oxalates, which can cause, drooling, vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, weakness, tremors and bloody urine.⁴

Salt

Just like salt isn't the healthiest thing for humans, it's even less healthy for dogs. Too much of it can lead to sodium ion poisoning, which may result in vomiting, diarrhea, depression, tremors, increased temperature, seizures and even death.⁵

Sugar

This applies to any food containing sugar. Make sure you check the ingredient label for human foods – corn syrup (which is a less expensive form of sugar or glucose) is found in just about everything these days. Too much sugar for your pup can lead to dental issues, obesity and even diabetes.⁵

Tobacco

Tobacco contains nicotine, which can be lethal to dogs. Symptoms include vomiting, abnormal heart rate, tremors and weakness. Tobacco poisoning can present itself within 1 hour of ingestion.⁴

Xylitol

A sugar alcohol found in gum, candies, baked goods and other sugar-substituted items, xylitol, while causing no apparent harm to humans, is extremely toxic to dogs. Even small amounts can cause low blood sugar, seizures, liver failure and even death for your pup.⁵

Yeast

Just like yeast rises in bread, it will also expand and rise within your pup's tummy. Make sure they don't get any. While mild cases will cause gas, lots of farting and discomfort — too much of it could rupture their stomach and intestines. Yeast dough is also dangerous because as it ferments and rises it makes alcohol which can lead to alcohol poisoning.⁵

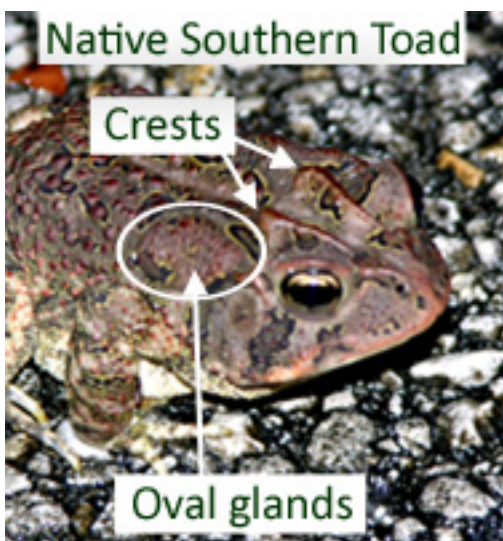
Florida's Frogs & Toads

True Toads (Family Bufonidae)

INVASIVE SPECIES

Cane Toad (*Rhinella marina* [formerly *Bufo marinus*])

a.k.a. "Bufo Toad", Marine Toad, or Giant Toad



Cane Toad (click on comparison image to view larger)

Photo by Dr. Steve A. Johnson (UF). To obtain permission to use this photo for educational purposes, email tadpole@ufl.edu.

Impacts:

Ecological - Cane Toads prey on native frogs, lizards, snakes, small mammals, and just about anything else that fits into their mouths.

Human Health/Quality of Life - Cane Toad toxin can irritate your skin and eyes. If your pet bites or swallows a Cane Toad, it will become sick and may die -- take it to the vet right away! Symptoms of Cane Toad poisoning in pets include excessive drooling and extremely red gums, head-shaking, crying, loss of coordination, and sometimes convulsions.

Size:

Usually 4 to 6 in. (max. ~9.5 in.) Note: With very few exceptions, any toad in Florida that is larger than 4 inches is NOT native and is almost certainly an invasive Cane Toad.

Identification

Body is tan to reddish-brown, dark brown, or gray; back is marked with dark spots. Skin is warty. Large, triangular parotoid glands are prominent on the shoulders; parotoid glands of native "true" toads are oval. Unlike native Southern Toads, they DO NOT have ridges or "crests" on top of the head.

Note: In the known range of these toads, it is a good idea to catch and identify ANY toad you see in your yard to be sure that they aren't dangerous.

Humanely euthanize any Cane Toads you find by rubbing or spraying 20% benzocaine toothache gel or sunburn spray (not 5% lidocaine) on the toad's lower belly. In a few minutes, it will become unconscious. Put the frog in a sealed plastic bag it in the freezer for 24-48 hours to ensure that it is humanely euthanized before disposal.

Breeding:

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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March to September; eggs are laid in long strings, virtually indistinguishable from eggs of native "true" toads. Call is a slow, melodic trill. To hear the Cane Toad's call, [click here](#) (choose to open file if asked). To hear other frog calls, visit the [USGS Frog Call Lookup](#) and select the species you want to hear from the common name drop-down list.

Diet:

Beetles, centipedes, crabs, millipedes, roaches, scorpions, spiders, and other invertebrates; also frogs, small reptiles, small birds, and small mammals.

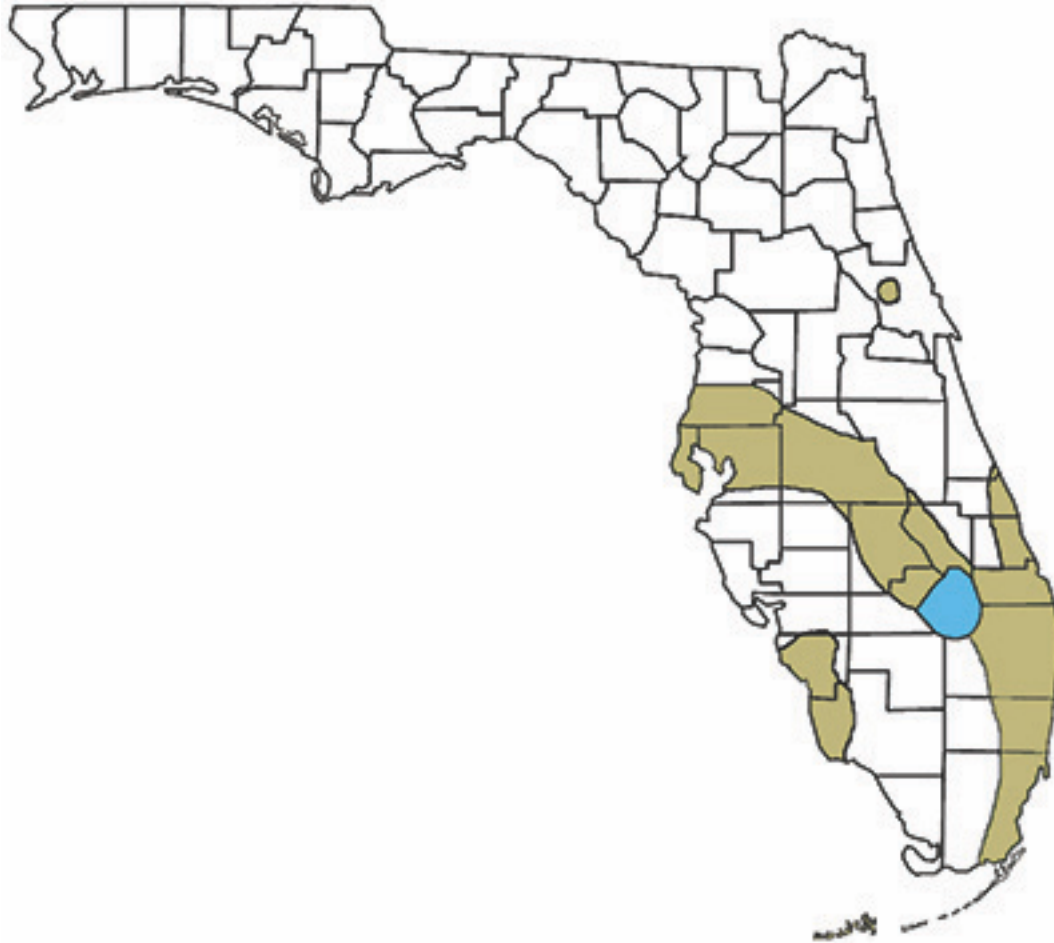
Habitats:

Native to Central and South America.

Found in areas of Central and South Florida, including Key West and Stock

Island, and in an isolated population in Bay County in the panhandle. Found predominantly in urbanized habitats and agricultural lands, but also in some natural areas, including floodplain and mangrove swamps. Breeds in the vegetated edges of any available freshwater habitat, including ponds (natural and manmade), lakes, canals, and ditches.

Note: Report any suspected Cane Toad sightings outside of the range shown in green to tadpole@ufl.edu.



Map by UF, IFAS Extension - may be used freely for education.

[Go Back to Florida's Frogs - All Regions](#)



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