

## Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

### Dear Deer!

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#### What plants are deer attracted to?

Deer enjoy sweet, soft, delicate plants that won't annoy their tongues or their sensitive palates.

If you want to offer deer a bountiful buffet, these are a few of the plants they gravitate to:

Agapanthus	Sunflower	Hollyhock	spinach, chard)
Pansies	Crocus	Morning glory	Beans
Daylilies	Gerbera	Blackberries	Cabbage
Hosta	Hydrangea	English ivy	Broccoli
Violas	Rhododendron	Grape vines	Beets
Violets	Azalea	Kiwi	Carrot tops
Dahlia	Hibiscus	Peas	Corn
Tulips	Clematis	Greens (lettuce,	



Deer do not like blanket flowers.



Rhododendrons are delicious desserts for horned herbivores.



Ornamental grasses do not appeal to the deer palate.

#### Deer-Resistant Species

In general, marauding stags and does stays away from strong-smelling, bitter-tasting, fuzzy, leathery, spiny, toxic, and fibrous foliage. They will eat these as a last resort because no flower or leaf is deer-proof. They innately know what plants are poisonous. If you want to deter deer from dining chez vous, try planting the selections below.

##### Natives:

Yarrow  
Manzanita  
Sage (salvias)  
Pot marigolds  
California poppies  
Milkweed  
Ferns  
California Fuchsia  
Deer Grass  
Pink flowering currant  
Elderberry  
Blue-eyed grass  
California lilac (ceanothus)  
Grevillea (peaches and cream)  
Muhly grass  
Jerusalem sage

##### Other Perennial

**Plants:**  
Bee Balm  
Lavender  
Catmint  
Society Garlic  
Ornamental onion  
Echinacea  
Hardy Geranium  
Pinks  
Astilbe  
Red hot poker  
Peony  
Dusty Miller  
Lamb's ear  
Hellebore  
Penstemon  
Digitalis (Foxglove)  
Sea Foam Statice  
Ferns  
Coral Bells (Heuchera)  
Coreopsis (Tickseed)  
Russian Sage  
Sea Holly  
Nigella

Nasturtiums  
Kangaroo Paw  
Cosmos  
Rudbeckia  
Lantana  
Gaillardia (Blanket flower)  
Camellia  
Sweet Alyssum  
Dicentra (Bleeding Heart)  
Primrose  
**Bulbs:**  
Crocus  
Wild leeks  
Daffodils  
Iris  
Allium  
Dutch iris  
Crocus  
Woodland hyacinth  
Naked Ladies  
Anemone

##### Annuals:

Verbena  
Snapdragon  
Marigold  
Bachelor Buttons  
Calendula  
Annual Vinca  
Lobelia  
Larkspur  
Tobacco  
Stock  
Strawflower  
Mexican Sunflower  
Zinnia  
Nasturtium  
**Bushes:**  
Boxwood  
Butterfly Bush  
Viburnum  
Deutzia  
Rose of Sharon

Daphne  
Lilac  
Weigela  
Chinese Fringe flowers  
Barberry  
Russian Sage  
Silky Dogwood

##### Vines:

Passionflower  
Pink Bower Vine

##### Other Grasses:

(many grasses are not recommended due to being fire-prone)  
Lomandra grass  
Mexican Feather grass  
Zebra grass  
Fountain grass  
New Zealand flax  
Egyptian Papyrus  
Mondo grass  
Blue Oat grass



Strawflowers, known as paper daisies, are too rough and scratchy to entice deer diners.