



J&L Garden Center

The All Season Gift
and Garden Center

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Animal Repellents

Have you ever watched out your back window as a Doe and her two fawns saunter into your garden? They are so cute, the kids would love to watch them walk through the yard. They look so sweet; they wouldn't hurt anything. You watch as one of the fawns takes a bite of the lamb's ear growing on the edge of the garden: hasn't he learned that deer do not like plants with fuzzy leaves? Lamb's ear was on the list of plants deer will not eat. The other fawn takes one bite out of your prize pumpkin and then strolls over to look at the bright red tomato. Meanwhile, the doe devours all of your pretty pansies, pulling each plant out by the roots as she gulps them down. Now all of a sudden these cute deer are not as welcome as they were a minute ago. Part of you wants to run for a camera while another part of you wants to look for the shotgun.



Deer Controls

Fences - Cages - Repellants - Deer Proof Plants

Unfortunately there is not a good solution to the deer problem. The only 100% control is to use physical barriers such as seven to eight foot tall fences around the yard or cages around each plant. Some gardeners have used chicken wire, shade cloth, burlap, or nylon netting to build cages.



Dozens of repellents have been tried by inventive and very desperate gardeners. They all work, for a short time, but deer get accustomed to them. The trick therefore is to switch repellents occasionally.

Some common repellents you can try are 1. **Ultra Sonic Pest Chasers**. These electronic devices use ultrasound waves to repel many different types of pests. 2. **Motion sensors** can activate either a light or a loud radio, (be careful or your neighbors might not be neighborly very long). 3. **Dogs** are a good way to keep deer out, if the dog is fairly large, noisy, and has free rein of the yard. 4. **Blood Meal and Milorganite** are two fertilizers that have an odor deer do not like, sprinkle them lightly around the yard every week or two. 5. **Human Hair**, Chunks of Soap, Fabric Softener Sheets, Garlic Spray, an Egg and Water Mixture, or Cayenne Pepper are household repellents that tend to repel deer. 6. **Commercial repellents** are also available such as **Liquid Fence, Repels All, Hot Pepper Wax, Not Tonight Deer, Deer Away, Shake Away, and Wolf, Lion, and Coyote Predator Urines**.

Another possible choice to control deer is to use "**Deer-Proof**" plants, but don't get your hopes up. The Utah Division of Wildlife, Sunset Western Garden Encyclopedia, and several other publications list plants that deer will not eat. The problem is that deer cannot read, and many of the plants on those lists have been munched on by deer in this area. Deer will try eating most anything at least once, even if they don't like it and spit it out.



Predator Urines

In the wild, the relationship between predator and prey defines the daily routine of every animal alive. The predator stalks its prey to satisfy its most basic need for food and the prey seeks to avoid the predator at all costs to ensure its own survival. It is the law of the wild. In this life and death game of hide and seek, the scent of urine is often the only warning a prey has that a predator is nearby. This scent of predator urine triggers a primal reaction in the prey. For centuries hunters have used animal urines to manipulate the movement of prey in such a way as to improve their chances for hunting success. Based upon these traditional uses the "**Leg Up Company**" has developed 100% Predator Urines as deception scents to deceive animals into believing a predator is very close by. These urines effectively camouflage human scent and deceive prey by creating the illusion that the predator is active in the immediate area. Wild animals instinctively react to the perceived threat of danger. By using the urine to mark a perimeter like these predators do in the wild you are able to replicate the predator/prey response in each animal.



We have four predator urines available; **Wolf, Coyote, Bobcat, and Fox**. The predator urines come in an eight ounce bottle. Simply apply the urine to the cotton in a dispenser and place these dispensers in several areas in your yard. Many gardeners have told us that they have had very good success in their yards.

Coyote urine repels Deer, Rabbits, Raccoons, Skunks, and Squirrels, and many other Rodents.

Fox urine repels Moles, Mice, Rabbits, and many other Rodents.

Bobcat urine repels Moles Mice, Muskrat, and many other rodents.

Wolf urine repels Moose, Mule Deer, Bear.

Take your pick, depending on what animals are bothering your yard. Please let us know about your success or failure.

'Deer Resistant' -

Not 'Deer Proof' Plants

Whether deer will target a particular plant variety depends on their habits, nutritional needs, plant palatability, seasonal factors, weather conditions, geographic area, and availability of alternative foods. Deer are creatures of habit, and previous movement patterns or foraging experiences can determine where damage will occur. Also, one plant species may be rarely damaged in one area, but highly preferred in another due to differences in deer pressure and other physical factors.

In general, damage from browsing is most severe when snow cover, or extreme cold, has reduced food availability. Another problem time is early spring, when the young succulent growth of ornamentals provides attractive food, before other spring growth is available. When food is in short supply, deer will browse even the most undesirable plants. Under such conditions, combine damage control measures, along with careful plant selection. Damage control measures include repellents and physical barriers (fencing). A few shrubs and trees that deer seem *'not to enjoy'*, but will *'still eat occasionally'* are:

- Amelanchier spp. (Serviceberry)
- Arctostaphylos uva-ursi (Bearberry)
- Aronia melanocarpa (Black Chokeberry)
- Berberis spp. (Barberry)
- Buddleia spp. (Butterfly bush)
- Buxus (Boxwood)
- Caryopteris
- Cotinus coggygria (Smoke tree)
- Cotoneaster spp. (Cotoneaster)
- Forsythia spp. (Forsythia)
- Juniperus chinensis
- Pinus Mugho (Mugho Pine)
- Potentilla spp. (Cinquefoil)
- Rhus (Sumac)
- Spirea spp. (Spirea)
- Syringa spp. (Lilac)
- Tamarix ramosissima (Tamarix)
- Taxus (Yew)
- Viburnum
- Wisteria
- Yucca filamentosa
- Aesculus hippocastanum (Horsechestnut)
- Betula (Birch)
- Fraxinus pennsylvanica (Green Ash)
- Ginkgo biloba (Maidenhair Tree)

- Larix deciduata (European Larch)
- Picea abies (Norway Spruce)
- Picea glauca (White Spruce)
- Picea glauca var. Densata (Black Hills Spruce)
- Picea pungens (Colorado Spruce)
- Picea pungens 'Nidiformis' (Bird's Nest Spruce)
- Pinus Nigra (Austrian Pine, Black Pine)
- Pinus sylvestris* (Scotch Pine)
- Quercus (Oak)

Perennial Flowers

- Soapwort
- Artemisia
- Salvia greggii
- Bearded Iris
- Candytuft
- Dusty Miller
- Garlic Chives
- Sedum
- Santolina
- Hibiscus
- Chrysanthemum
- Yarrow
- Russian Sage
- Delphinium
- Lamb's Ear
- Gailardia
- Monarda
- Poppies
- Obedient Plant
- Rudbeckia
- Ornamental grasses

Annual Flowers

- Ageratum
- Salvia
- Marigolds
- Periwinkles
- Zinnias
- Cleome
- Amarantha
- Euryops
- Lantana

This is not a complete list but it will give you a few ideas for next spring as you start planning your 'Deer Resistant' gardens.

More Resources:

<http://www.agnr.umd.edu/CES/Pubs/PDF/FS655.pdf>