



Published on *British Columbia Drug and Poison Information Centre (BC DPIC)* (<http://www.dpic.org>)

[Home](#) > [FAQs](#) > [Daphne](#) > [Printer-friendly PDF](#)

Daphne

Article type:
poison information

Access:
public

Daphne laureola



Daphne mezereum



Daphne

***Daphne laureola* or spurge-laurel** is an evergreen shrub with yellowish green flowers and blue-black berries.

Daphne mezereum is a woody deciduous shrub with bright red berries. The pink or purple flowers bloom in early spring before the leaves appear.

Is it toxic?

Berries and all parts of the plant contain a compound that has irritant and blistering properties.

Health Effects:

Skin: Contact with the sap may result in irritation, redness, swelling and blisters. Symptoms usually resolve within 48 hours.

Ingestion: Symptoms usually start within 1-2 hours. Ingestion of 1 or 2 berries may cause a stomach upset. Larger amounts may result in more severe symptoms including irritation to the mouth and throat, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea and lethargy.

What to do?

Skin: Wash skin with soap and water and rinse thoroughly. Contact the Poison Control Centre if blistering occurs or if you have any questions or concerns.

Ingestion: Rinse out mouth and drink a glass of water. **Contact the Poison Control Centre. In some cases, referral to a hospital may be recommended.**

How can I prevent exposure? Do not ingest wild berries. Know the name of the plants and berries in your backyard.

Need more information: Contact the Poison Control Centre.

© 2010 BC Drug and Poison Information Centre

Keywords:

plants: gastrointestinal irritant

© 2017 BC Drug and Poison Information Centre

All material found on the BC Drug and Poison Information Centre (DPIC) website is provided for informational purposes only. It is *not* meant to replace the expert advice of a healthcare professional such as a physician, pharmacist, nurse or qualified poison specialist. Use of this site is governed and restricted by specific terms of use. Please review the **full terms and conditions** below prior to using the DPIC website. In the event of a poisoning emergency, call your local poison control centre immediately. Portions of this web site are intended for healthcare professionals. Interpretation and application of information may require more detailed explanation than contained herein, particularly regarding any clinical information that is found in or linked to this site. Patients are advised to consult their health care provider regarding diagnosis and treatment, and for assistance in interpreting these materials and applying them in individual cases.

Terms and Conditions

Source URL (retrieved on 2019-11-18 07:56): <http://www.dpic.org/faq/daphne>