

Natural Plant Antidotes to Poisonous Plants

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Abstract

Research was conducted on the abundance of natural antidotes to poisonous plants. I hypothesized that there would be few species of antidote plants. *Toxicodendron radicans*, *Toxicodendron pubescens*, and *Toxicodendron vernix* were selected as the poisonous plants because they cause dermatitis in humans and are very common. The sap of all these plants contains urushiol, which reacts with the human body negatively. The only antidote plant discovered was jewelweed, *Impatiens capensis* which contains saponin which counters the urushiol. Plants closely related to jewelweed did not act as antidotes either. The reason that it is an antidote is that the juice from the crushed plant is similar to washing with soap and water.