



LILIES COULD KILL YOUR CAT

While the ASPCA may list 407 plants as being poisonous to cats, lilies should be the biggest worry for cat owners. Not only are they so toxic to cats that merely drinking the vase water can kill a cat, for some unknown reason cats seem to be attracted to the plant.

All parts of the plant are toxic, so if you're a cat owner you should seriously reconsider ever having them in your home. In this infographic we aim to highlight some interesting statistics related to lily poisoning in cats, while raising awareness among the public. So if you know a cat lover who may not know this information, please share it with them.

27%



Only 27% of cat owners know of the dangers lilies pose to their cat

19%



19% of cat poisonings are due to plants

The most frequently reported plants:

- Lilies 20%
- Aroids 13%
- Cycads 9%
- Golden pothos 8%
- Various berries 7%
- Ivy 6%
- Yew 6%
- Oleander 6%
- Avocado 4%
- Hibiscus 4%

The remaining 19% included:

- Marijuana
- Tomato leaves
- Asparagus
- Plums
- Apricots



Animal poisoning twice as likely during the summer months due to increased activity and highly likelihood of being outside



In 2009, the ASPCA received 140,000 calls related to animal poisoning. 7,858 related to plants.



Average cost for evaluation, stabilisation and treatment: \$600-1,200



Dialysis costs for one week \$3,000-4,000

SYMPTOMS

If you notice any of the following, seek medical assistance immediately:

- Sudden onset of vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Lack of appetite
- Increased thirst



24 to 72 hours: How long until acute renal failure sets in
3 to 7 days: How long until your cat succumbs to lily poisoning

TREATMENT

Once your cat is being seen by a vet, treatment will begin. Activated charcoal can be used to help neutralise toxins. If the poisoning was caught early, intravenous fluids can be used to help prevent further damage to the kidneys. If it was caught late and the kidneys are already in trouble, dialysis may be necessary to save your cat's life.

CONCLUSION

Lily poisoning is absolutely deadly to your cat and is not as well-known as it should be. If you own a cat, make sure you keep your environment free of lilies. If you know a cat lover, forward this onto them sooner rather than later. At Flowers Across Sydney we're doing our bit by alerting anyone who buys a bouquet with lilies about the danger they pose to cats.

Special Thanks

This infographic could not have been put together without the help of several generous vets:
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