

## Food, Poison, Medicine: answers



### 1. Potato

*Solanum tuberosum*

The leaves, berries, stems and green flesh of the tubers are poisonous. The tubers are edible when cooked.



### 2. Aubergine

*Solanum melongena*

Pink flowers. The fleshy fruit of the plant are edible. The leaves and flowers can be toxic. All parts of the plant can cause allergic reaction.



### 3. Tomato

*Solanum lycopersicum*

Serrated leaves. Fruits can be eaten raw or cooked. Leaves, stems, and green unripe fruit are mildly toxic.



### 4. Mandrake

*Mandragora officinarum*

Poisonous, in particular the root and leaves.

Blurred vision, dry mouth, difficulty urinating, dizziness, headache, vomiting, blushing, rapid heart rate. Underground tuber. Hyperactivity and hallucinations.



5. Deadly Nightshade  
*Atropa belladonna*

Black fruits. One of the most poisonous plants in the Northern hemisphere, all parts of the plant are poisonous. Blurred vision, loss of balance, confusion, increased heart rate, delirium, convulsions, skin rash, dry mouth. Has been used to make poison arrows. Has been used as a pain reliever, anti-inflammatory and muscle relaxant.



6. Henbane  
*Hyoscyamus niger*

Yellow flowers. All parts of the plant are poisonous but the leaves are the most toxic. Convulsions, vomiting, loss of muscle movement, high blood pressure, fever, high heart rate, difficulty swallowing and speaking. Psychoactive: hallucinations, sensation of flight. Has been used in combination with other plants as an anaesthetic potion and sedative.



7. Devil's Snare  
*Datura stramonium*

Serrated leaves. All parts of the plant are poisonous. Delirium, fever, increased heart rate, bizarre behaviour, memory loss, severe pupil dilation and sensitivity to light. Has been used to treat asthma and as a pain reliever and sedative.



8. Tobacco  
*Nicotiana tabacum*

Every part of the plant except the seed is poisonous. Nausea, vomiting, excessive salivation, abdominal pain, increased heart rate tremor, headache, dizziness, seizures, difficulty breathing. Is used as an insecticide. Pink flowers. Leaves used as a poultice to treat boils and open wounds. Root has been used to treat asthma and indigestion.



9. Gogi Berry  
*Lycium barbarum*

The red fruits of the plant are edible once dried or cooked. The young stems and leaves can be eaten as a vegetable.



10. Chili Pepper  
*Capsicum annuum*

White flowers. The fruits of the plant are edible raw and cooked. The fruits contain high levels of capsaicin, giving a burning or hot sensation when eaten. Has been used as a pain reliever for arthritis.