

Onion, *Allium* spp.



Identification: Narrow, linear, fleshy leaves; round stem; single bulb. White flowers in umbel borne on leafless flower stalk. Strong onion odor.

Habitat: Meadows, pastures

Animals Affected: Cattle are most susceptible, horses and dogs semi-susceptible; sheep and goats most resistant.

Toxin family: Alkaloids: damages red blood cell metabolism.

Other: Most poisonings are due to animals fed with cull domestic onions—rarely from wild onions. First sign of toxicity is generally dark red-brown urine, weak pulse, onion breath. Causes milk to taste like onion –onion flavor will disappear if animal is cut off from eating onions for 24 hours.