

**POISONOUS PLANTS OF  
TURKEY  
Week 7**

**SKIN HARMFUL  
PLANTS**

# **1- PLANTS CAUSING MECHANICAL IRRITATION:**

**Rosaceae and Cactaceae family plants are important under this heading.**

**Especially hard-hairy plants cause mechanical irritation.**

Rosa sp.

Cactaceae Plants

**Injury occurs on the skin and therefore inflammation.**

**If left untreated, inflammation can reach the lower layers of the skin.**

## **2- PLANTS CAUSING MECHANICAL AND CHEMICAL IRRITATION:**

\*In this group, in addition to the mechanical damage of the skin and mucous membranes, irritant substances also appear on the stage.

**\*Urtica species which are members of the family Urticaceae are the most important examples under this heading.**

\* Injection-like needle of the plant causes the reaction under the skin to transfer substances such as histamine, formic acid.

Although not having spines, some **Araceae** family plants (*Dieffenbachia* sp., *Arum* sp.) Also cause **mechanical and chemical irritation.**

\*When contact with the latex of these plants, oxalate crystals in the structure cause mechanical irritation and other chemical compounds cause irritation.

### **3-Plants That Cause Chemical Irritation:**

- In contact with the sap or milk of the plant, reaction occurs on the skin and mucosa.

**Euphorbia sp.**



- The most well-known example is the Euphorbia (Euphorbia) species of the Euphorbiaceae family.

- The latex of the Euphorbia plant cause inflammation and irritation due to the diterpene compounds in the structure.

## **4-Plants containing phototoxic substances:**

Substances that increase the sensitivity of the skin to ultraviolet (UV) rays are called phototoxic substance.

The effect of these substances is also called phototoxicity.

In contact with these substances,  
photodermatitis occurs on the skin  
(inflammation on the skin depending  
on the light).

The group of chemicals commonly found in such plants is furanocoumarins.

Some plants belong to Apiaceae  
(some Heracleum species) and  
Rutaceae (Ruta graveolens) families  
can be mentioned under this  
heading.

After contact to the plant,  
burning, redness, edema,  
hydrocele, pigmentation  
occurs.