



**Toxic plants in harvested forages.** It is harder to control poisonous plants that might be present in purchased hay and also harder for animals to avoid dried and broken parts of poisonous plants. If feasible, scout the hay fields where your hay is harvested.

## If you suspect plant poisoning

1. Remove animals from areas where the plants are present and remove any affected feed or forage. In the case of photosensitizing agents, get the animal into shade and treat any secondary infections.
2. **Contact your veterinarian!** Rule out other potential causes of death or disease and identify symptoms of toxicity. These will all help identifying the toxin and responsible plant(s).
3. Survey the area where the animals have been located recently to identify any plants that may be a potential source of toxicity. Don't forget to include fencerows and areas where animals may have access to nearby trees and shrubs. Learn to identify poisonous plants by capturing images of suspected plants using a digital camera and compare the images with online identification databases ([weedid.wisc.edu](http://weedid.wisc.edu)) or published references. Unknown images can also be submitted to your county extension to confirm their identity (see Resources, p.37).