

## Slugs and snails

Slug and snail bait contains a toxic compound called metaldehyde that is lethal to snails, dogs, cats and humans.

It is particularly interesting to dogs because it resembles dog food pellets and is flavored with molasses and bran, hence causing an immediate reaction.

Signs of poisoning begin fairly quickly after ingestion and these include tremors, twitching, hyperthermia, seizures, cardiac and respiratory failure and even death. The outcome depends on the amount ingested and the interval between ingestion and treatment. For those patients who survive, some often have permanent disabilities for the remainder of their lives. Unfortunately, many die.

If you have a pet and you have a vegetable garden, I would suggest refraining from the use of this product. Some manufactures add a compound called Bitterx to deter pets. In my experience this is ineffective so my advice is to avoid any type of slug bait.

Your pets are more important than your garden. PLEASE TAKE CARE