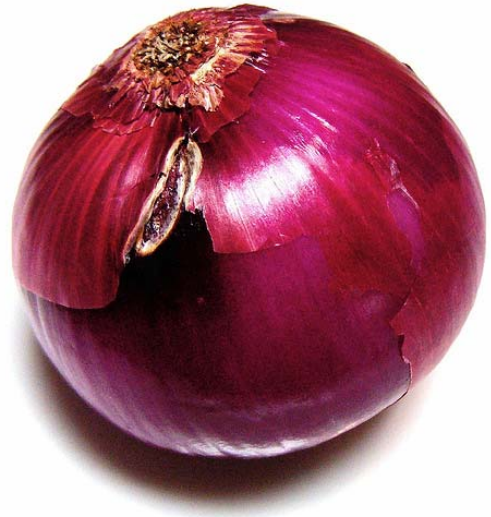


# Onion Toxicity



Onions are members of the genus *Allium* (Other members of this genus include garlic, leek, shallot, and chive).

Pieces of onion, onion powder, or even cooked onion, can cause damage to red blood cells which could result in anemia in both dogs and cats.

Onions cause oxidative damage to red blood cells resulting in red blood cell lysis and destruction.

Toxicoses from fresh, dried, or, powdered plant material have been reported in dogs and cats.

In one study, dogs developed hemolytic anemia after being fed 30 g/kg of onions once daily for 3 days.

Feeding commercial baby food containing onion powder has also been reported to cause toxicity in cats.

Clinical signs associated with onion poisoning include hemolytic anemia, hemoglobinuria (dark colored urine), vomiting, weakness, and pale gums.