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Subject: Sensitivity to Humea Elegans

A woman (M.43956) who worked as a gardener in a London park, had two attacks within 3 weeks of an acute vesicular dermatitis of the fore-arms and chin. On both occasions she had moved pots of Humea Elegans.

A patch test with a leaf of this plant was positive.

Two other gardeners at work had had similar trouble but refused to come for patch testing.

Humea Elegans (Family - Compositae; Habitat - Australia) is described by Walker as "A tall graceful plant with a red spiky flower and produces a most violent dermatitis most common in gardeners."

Walker, N. Introduction to Dermatology, Edinburgh 1911.