



**Legume:** A fruit derived from a simple pistil and which opens along two longitudinal sutures; dehiscent at maturity.

Beans (pictured) and peas are legumes commonly found in the garden. These are often called pods. This is not a botanical term. Botanically these fruits are known as legumes. When dry, they will open along two seams.



Not all legumes are edible. The seeds found in the legumes of *Lupinus* can be toxic.



Some woody plants also produce legumes, like this Eastern redbud (*Cercis canadensis*).



Kentucky coffeetree (*Gymnocladus dioicus*) is another tree that makes legumes.

