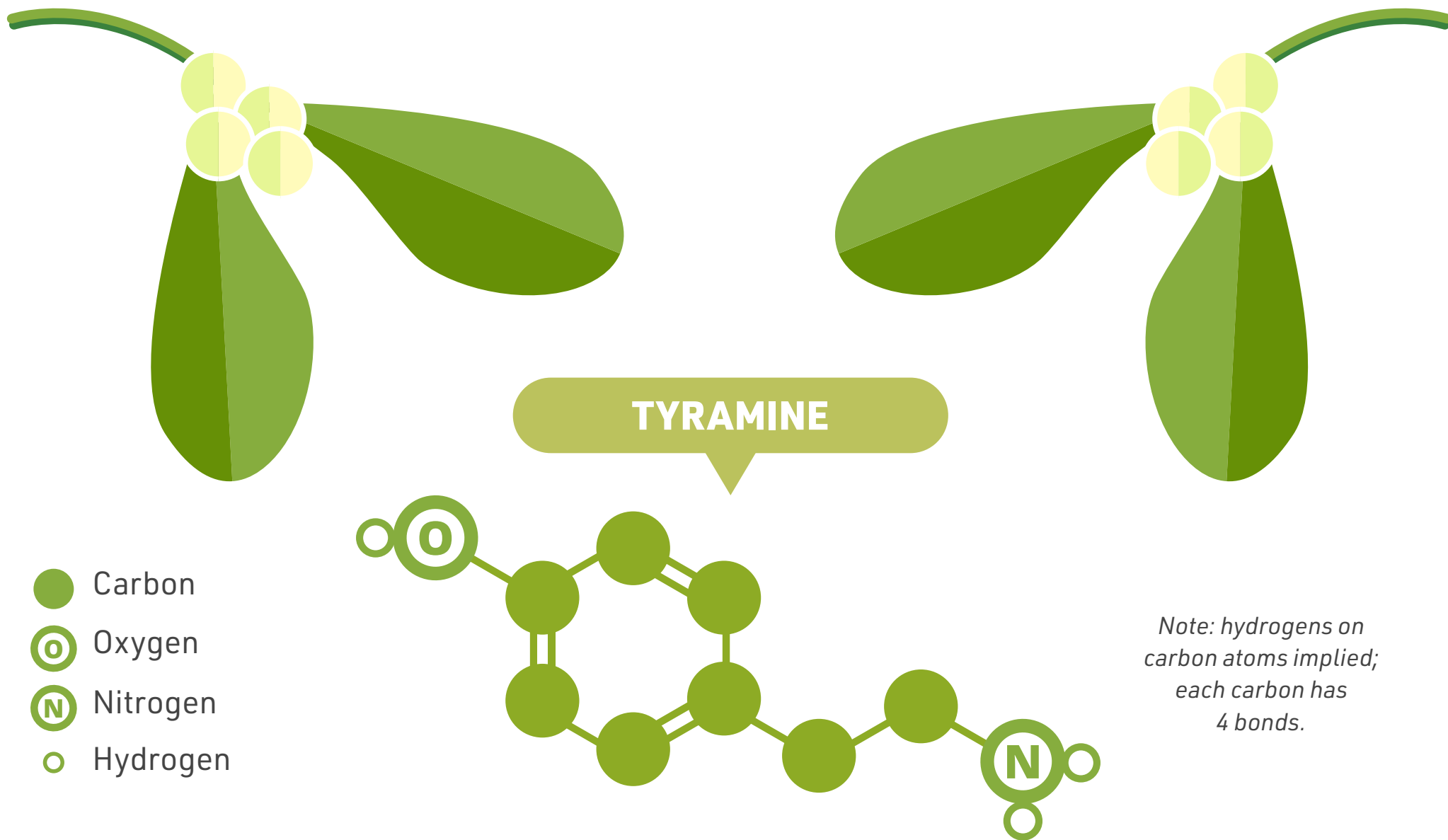


CHEMISTRY ADVENT 4

POISONOUS MISTLETOE



By all means kiss under the mistletoe this Christmas, but don't be tempted to try and eat its berries or leaves. They're mildly toxic if ingested due to the presence of the toxic peptides phoratoxin and viscotoxin, as well as the alkaloid tyramine shown above. While ingesting small amounts of the berries isn't deadly, it can lead to nausea and vomiting.

