

## *Ageratum riparia*

### **Common name:**

Mistflower

### **Palatability to Livestock:**

Moderate, but not at flowering.

### **Toxicity to Goats:**

N/a

### **Toxicity to Other Species:**

Unlikely.

### **Poisonous Principle:**

Pollens. Toxic to humans.

### **Effects:**

*Signs and symptoms;*

Not applicable to livestock.

### *Health and Production Problems;*

. Allergenic to humans.

. Leaching from the leaves has an allelopathic effect on other plants.

### *Treatment;*

N/a

### **Integrated Control Strategy:**

. Use goats, but not at flowering.

. Hand pull to remove crowns, or cultivate.

. Biological control has not proved useful as yet. (2007)

. Try mechanical control and herbicides, then sow to kikuyu, or other suitable pasture.

. Declared "Noxious" in many shires in NSW.

### **Comments:**

. An erect, sometimes prostrate perennial, with sprawling stems, rooting at the nodes, growing up to 30 cms tall.

. Leaves are narrow, elongated and toothed, unlike crofton weed.

. Clusters of white flowers, similar to crofton weed at the end of a stalk, in late spring and early summer.

. A native of Central America.

. This plant is highly allergenic, and prefers disturbed, wet areas, often near rainforests.

. Goats do not eat it at flowering times.

. Found on NSW central and north coasts, and in southern Queensland.



Pictures: *Ageratum riparia*

Picture: North East CC. Poster.



Picture: AGDEX. 1999

### **Further Reading;**

. AGFACTS. NSW Dept Ag.

. Auld and Medd. Weeds. 1992.

. Parsons and Cuthbertson.

Noxious Weeds of Australia.2001.

. Swarbrick and Skarratt. Bushweed 2 Database. 1997.