

## *Amaryllis belladonna*

### **Common name:**

Belladonna lily, Naked Lady,

### **Palatability to Livestock:**

Occasionally eaten.

### **Toxicity to Goats:**

Moderate risk, bulbs very toxic.

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

Potentially toxic to all grazing animals.

Bulbs very toxic to all livestock.

### **Poisonous Principle:**

. Adonidin, a glycoside of phenanthrene.

. Lycorine, an alkaloid.

### **Effects:**

*Signs and symptoms;*

. Salivation, vomiting, diarrhoea,

. Damage to the renal system,

. Gastro-enteritis.

. Dermatitis in some humans, from sap and bulbs.

*Health and Production Problems;*

. Occasional death within 24 hours, of clinical signs due to cardio-respiratory failure.

. Vomiting and diarrhoea.

. Can damage the renal system.

*Treatment;*

. See Vet.

. Try activated charcoal.

### **Integrated Control Strategy:**

. A garden plant escape.

. Use herbicide, or weed out into disposable bags.

### **Comments:**

. Bulbous, perennial, ornamental pink lily, spread by division and seed.

. Very quickly will form large clumps of many dark green, strap-like leaves.

. Clusters of fragrant flowers bud out on a tall fleshy stem, trumpet shaped, with six petals.

. Flowers in autumn and dies back, then the leaves sprout in spring, and finally die back.

. Perfumed flowers are from pale pink to darker pink, in spring and summer.

. Frequently cultivated in gardens, and also found along roadsides as a garden escapee.

. As with all such bulbs, leaves may be eaten occasionally, but the bulbs are highly toxic.

. Fruit is a capsule, with a few seeds.

. The bulb is very toxic to livestock, and the sap causes dermatitis to humans.

. Other varieties are *Crinum* and *Narcissus*.

. A native of South Africa, was used as an arrow poison.



Picture: *Amaryllis belladonna*  
Helen Simmonds. Calga NSW.

### **Further Reading;**

. CSIRO

. Everist. Poisonous Plants of Australia. 1981

. Harden. Flora of NSW. 1993

. Shepherd. Pretty but Poisonous. 2004.

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