

Aristolochia spp

Common name:

Dutchman's Pipe, Birthwort,
Calico Flower,

Palatability to Livestock:

Moderate.

Toxicity to Goats:

Low risk.

Toxicity to Other Species:

Low risk.

Poisonous Principle:

. Aristolochic acid, norastolochia acid, and magnoflorin.

Effects:

Signs and Symptoms:

- . In humans; vomiting, gastroenteritis, cramps, lowering of blood pressure.
- . Coma and death by respiratory paralysis.
- . Traditionally used to induce labour.

Health and Production Problems:

- . Be aware of potential health problems.

Treatment:

- . See Dr or Vet.

Integrated Control Strategy:

- . Declared "Noxious" in parts of Queensland.

Comments:

- . Garden plant, escapee.
- . Prefers rich moist soil.
- . The whole plant is toxic.
- . A climbing plant with slender stems, becoming woody with age, tends to smother other plant.,
- . Leaves are alternate, round or heart-shaped, mid-green, fleshy and smooth, on long stalks.

- . Pendulous, single flowers grow on long stems from the leaf axils, with a pale yellow "S" shaped tube, blowing out to a round, purple-spotted flare, flowering in summer.
- . Seed is a 6 winged cylinder and opens to form a parachute like structure, containing flat, brown, heart-shaped seeds.
- . Found in waste areas, with rich moist soil, with some protection.
- . Native of Brazil.



Picture: *Aristolochia* spp
Helen Simmonds. Calga. NSW.

Further Reading:

- . Shepherd. *Pretty but Poisonous*. 2004.
- . Steginga. *Poisonous Plants in the Home, Garden and the Bush*. 2003.