

## *Ipomoea indica*

### **Common name:**

Blue morning glory

### **Palatability to Livestock:**

High at all stages.

### **Toxicity to Goats:**

Low.

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

Potentially toxic to sheep and cattle.

### **Poisonous Principle:**

Probably indole alkaloids, nitrates and ergot alkaloids.

### **Effects:**

#### *Signs and symptoms;*

- . Chronic limb weakness,
- . Knuckling of the fetlocks,
- . Frequent urination,
- . Muscle twitches.

#### *Health and Production Problems;*

- . Chronic weight loss.

#### *Treatment;*

See Vet.

### **Integrated Control Strategy:**

- . Use herbicides, put into disposable bags,
- . Keep stock away from these plants,
- . Use goats.

### **Comments:**

- . Garden plant gone feral. A perennial, with persistent and vigorous twining stems.
- . Alternate leaves are broad and oval, margins may be deeply lobed or smooth or triangular, surfaces may have fine short hairs.
- . Stems are twining, purplish and hairy, mature stems are creamy and exude a white sap if damaged.
- . Fruit not set, in Australia.

- . Flowers from spring to autumn.
- . Flowers violet-blue, with paler bands and darker throat, funnel shaped, pinkish in pm.
- . New flowers open in the morning.
- . Naturalized in coastal districts of Australia.
- . Found in Queensland, Victoria, SA, and in coastal NSW, NW Slopes, NW Plains.
- . Spread is by rooting along the stem, invading dry coastal vegetation, forests and woodland, riparian vegetation, plantations and summer crops.



AM.



PM

Picture. *Ipomoea indica*  
Helen Simmonds. Calga NSW.

### **Further Reading:**

- . Herbicide Control. AGDEX 647 1997
- . Huggins and Lucy. Weeds of Southern Qld. 1997
- . Harden Flora of NSW. 1992
- . Blood. Environmental Weeds. Field Guide for SE Australia. CRC Weed Management Systems. 2003
- . Shepherd. Pretty but Poisonous. 2004
- . Wilson. Some Plants are Poisonous. 1997

. *Ipomoea purpurea*, Common morning glory, flowers in spring, and produces seed capsules. Not a common plant.