

## *Lamium amplexicaule*

### **Common name:**

Deadnettle, Henbit,

### **Palatability to Livestock:**

Moderate.

### **Toxicity to Goats:**

Unknown.

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

Sheep, probably cattle and horses.

### **Poisonous Principle:**

Unknown.

### **Effects:**

#### *Signs and symptoms;*

- . Staggers after exercise,
- . Stiffness of hind limbs,
- . Rapid shallow breathing,
- . Shivering and trembling.

#### *Health and Production Problems;*

- . Avoid stress of driving.

#### *Treatment;*

- . Remove stock to safer pasture.
- . Be aware of potential stock problems.

### **Integrated Control Strategy:**

- . Dig out, use herbicides.

### **Comments:**

- . Annual slender hairy herb, low growing, with erect stems, square in cross section.
- . Leaves are in opposite pairs, roughly circular and lobed, either short stalked, or clasping the stem, with scalloped edges.
- . Small purple or pale pink, flowers, with a hooded upper lip, growing in clusters, among the upper leaves. No stalks on the flowers.  
(NB *Stachys arvensis* has stalks on the flowers )

- . Fruits, a cluster of four small angled nutlets.
- . Grows in winter and early spring.
- . Native to Europe and Asia, found all over Australia, as a weed of disturbed ground, and occasionally in winter cereal crop.
- . Most poisonings occur after grazing cereal stubble containing deadnettle in the mature stage.
- . A member of the mint family.



Picture: *Lamium amplexicaule*  
Weed Control in Lucerne, cover

### **Further Reading:**

- . Cunningham, Mulham, Milthorpe and Leigh. Plants of Western NSW. 1999
- . Everist. Poisonous Plants of Australia. 1981
- . McBarron. Poisonous Plants. Handbook. 1983
- . Roth. Weeds, Friend or Foe. 2001