

## *Persicaria spp*

### **Common name:**

Smart weed, Knot Weeds,

### **Palatability to Livestock:**

Moderate.

### **Toxicity to Goats:**

Low.

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

Low.

### **Poisonous Principle:**

Unknown.

### **Effects:**

*Signs and symptoms;*

. Leaves of some species may cause dermatitis in stock and humans.

*Health and Production Problems;*

Be aware of potential problems.

*Treatment;*

See Vet.

### **Integrated Control Strategy:**

. Dispose of carefully, or burn.

### **Comments:**

- . A garden plant, or weed in paddocks.
- . Annual or perennial sprawling plant, a weed in the wrong place.
- . Many varieties available, some as weeds in pastures, others as escaped garden varieties.
- . Long thin nubby flowers, pale pink to whitish, spring to autumn.
- . Leaves are thin and pointed, sometimes with a reddish-black mark on the leaf.
- . Toxins in the leaves of *P. hydropiper* will cause skin to itch and burn, also used as a fish poison.
- . Weed from Europe.



Pictures: *Persicaria spp*



Pictures: Helen Simmonds. Calga NSW.

### **Further Reading:**

- . Auld and Medd. Weeds. 1979.
- . Hussey, Keighery, Cousens, Dodd, and Lloyd. Western Weeds. 1997
- . Harden. Flora of NSW. 2000
- . Roth. Weeds. Friend or Foe. 2001