

## ***Rapistrum rugosum***

### **Common name:**

Turnip weed, Wild turnip,

### **Palatability to Livestock:**

High at all stages.

### **Toxicity to Goats:**

Minimal.

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

Minimal.

### **Poisonous Principle:**

Seeds contain goitrogenic glycosides.

### **Effects:**

*Signs and symptoms;*

- . Can cause gastro-enteritis.
- . Can cause kidney disorders.

### *Health and Production Problems;*

- . Chronic ill-thrift.

### *Treatment;*

- . Iodine drench or iodine salt licks.

### **Integrated Control Strategy:**

- . Use goats.
  - . Cultivate and use herbicides before flowering.
- Declared "Noxious" in parts of WA.

### **Comments:**

- . An upright annual forb, growing to 1 m tall.
- . Leaves are rough, and size decreases from large lobed leaves at the base, to smaller toothed upper leaves.
- . Small yellow flowers form in clusters on ends of branched stems at the top of the plant.
- . A winter grower that emerges in early autumn after rains, grows through winter and flowers in spring.
- . Pods are 1 cm long with 1-3 seeds, in 2 segments, a basal globular part, and a beaked upper section.

- . Whole plant has a strong turnip like odour when crushed, or in flower.
- . Infests open native pastures when poor seasons are followed by good winter rain.
- . The young plant is palatable, and will taint milk and meat.



Picture: Helen Simmonds. Calga. NSW.



Picture: *Rapistrum rugosum* NSW Poster.

### **Further Reading:**

- . Henry, Hall, Jordan, Milson, Sclafe and Silcock. Pasture Plants of Southern Inland Queensland. 1995.
- . Huggins and Lucy. Weeds of Southern Queensland. 1997.
- . Lamp and Collett. Field Guide to Weeds in Australia. 1979.
- . Parsons and Cuthbertson. Noxious Weeds of Australia. 2001