

Tagetes minuta

Common name:

Stinking Roger,

Palatability to Livestock:

Seldom eaten, maybe at flowering.

Toxicity to Goats:

Unknown.

Toxicity to Other Species:

May cause facial irritation to stock.

Poisonous Principle:

Tagetones, ocimene, myrcene, linalool etc.

Effects:

Signs and symptoms;

. Juice is an irritant to the skin and the eyes.

Health and Production Problems;

. Sore mouth and nose.

Treatment;

. Be aware of potential stock problems.

Integrated Control Strategy:

- . Use goats.
- . Cultivation, place into disposable bags.
- . Try glyphosates.
- . Introduce competition from shrubs and trees.

Comments:

- . An annual, hairless herb growing to over two metres high.
- . Shallow rooted, tall, slender, highly aromatic plant.
- . Leaves are dark green, mostly opposite, long, and have several toothed leaflets.
- . Flowering in summer to autumn, small, pale yellow tubes with a few tiny petals, in clusters on the end of the stems.
- . Seeds are long and thin, with a tuft of bristles at one end.

. Oil extracted from the plant was used in insect repellants.

. Found in pastures or roadsides in Queensland, NSW, South Australia and West Australia.

. One variety of this species was used by the Incas to dull the senses before the human sacrifice.



Picture: *Tagetes minuta* Helen Simmonds. Calga NSW

Further Reading:

- . Auld and Medd. Weeds. 1992.
- . Cunningham, Mulham, Milthorpe and Leigh. Plants of Western NSW. 1999.
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- . Cribb and Cribb. Wild Medicine in Australia. 1990.
- . McBarron. Medical and Veterinary Aspects of Plant Poisons in NSW. 1976.
- . Swarbrick and Skarratt. Bushweed 2 Database. 1994.
- . Wilson. Some Plants are Poisonous. 1997.