

Anredera cordifolia

Common name:

Madeira vine, Lambs tail,

Palatability to Livestock:

Tubers and leaves occasionally eaten.

Toxicity to Goats:

May be toxic.

Toxicity to Other Species:

Toxic to sheep, pigs, and maybe cattle.

Poisonous Principle:

Unknown.

Effects:

Signs and symptoms;

. Maybe diarrhoea and convulsions.

Health and Production Problems;

. In Queensland, it is suspected of poisoning stock via drinking water, causing diarrhoea and convulsions.

Treatment;

See Vet.

Integrated Control Strategy:

. Cut stems to the ground, and remove any aerial tubers and rhizomes, as well as all new growth, and fallen tubercles, then burn.

. Spot spray any new growth.

Comments:

. Garden escapee.

. A vigorous, hairless, perennial, succulent climber, growing up to 8 metres high.

. Reproduces by auxiliary tubers which can fall, and/or be spread by water.

. Leaves are alternate, bright green, fleshy and heart-shaped, with a pointed tip.

. Stems are softly woody, often gnarled, slender, maybe reddish.

. Mature stems produce aerial tubers, viable for up to 5 years.

. Tubers are produced, both underground and on the stems.

. Small, fragrant, cream flowers are arranged in slender racemes, which droop from the leaf axil, in late summer to autumn.

. They have a sweet, scented, aniseed aroma.

. This weed is an ornamental creeper, and garden escapee in coastal NSW and Queensland.

. It can bind up vegetation, and smother fences.

. A native of South America.

. This plant may poison drinking water.



Picture: Wikipedia.

Further Reading:

. Auld and Medd. Weeds. 1992.

. Blood. Environmental Weeds. Field Guide for SE Australia. CRC Weed Management Systems. 2003.

. Everist. Poisonous Plants of Australia. 1981

. Swarbrick and Skarratt. Bushweed 2 Database. 1997.