**Arctotheca calendula**

**Common name:**
Capeweed, Daisy chains,

**Palatability to Livestock:**
Variable.

**Toxicity to Goats:**
Low risk toxicity.

**Toxicity to Other Species:**
Potentially toxic to sheep, cattle, pigs and horses.

**Poisonous Principle:**
Nitrates.

**Effects:**
*Signs and symptoms;*
. Respiratory distress, gasping, rapid breathing,
. Tremors, staggering, and collapse.
. The gums may darken.
. Scouring and enteritis in pigs.

*Health and Production Problems;*
. Affected animals may be just found dead, or die very quickly. Some may recover.
. Hairballs from seeds and buds can kill sheep.
. Can cause hay-fever in humans.
. This plant may contribute to “Australian Stringhalt” in horses.
. May cause off-flavours in milk.

**Treatment:**
. See Vet, treat as for nitrate poisoning.

**Integrated Control Strategy:**
. Try goats.
. Selective broadleaf herbicides, (Group C or I), Glyphosate®, Trifluralin® or Oryzalin®.
. Soil compaction from machinery may encourage growth of this weed.
. Often grows in magnesium deficient soils, so dolomite may help.

**Comments:**
. An annual or biennial, flat, rosette weed, a stemless plant with a large taproot.
. Leaves are serrated and deeply lobed, with a white mat of hair on the lower surface.
. Flowers are single and yellow on long stalks, with brown marks at the base of the petals, fading as they age, flowering in the spring.
. The plant establishes in autumn, with the main growth during winter and spring.
. It can withstand frost and drought.
. Goats may eat this plant at all stages, from before flowering, through to the dried off stage.
. The woolly seeds and flower buds may cause hairballs in sheep.
. The plant may cause a taint in meat and milk products.
. A native of South Africa, found in all Australian states, particularly in temperate regions.

*Picture: Arctotheca calendula*
Helen Simmonds. Calga. NSW.

Further Reading.

Information included in this Info Sheet was obtained from the source documents, and no responsibility will be accepted by the compiler.