**Caesalpina spp**

**Common name:**
Red Bird of Paradise, Mysore thorn, Wait-a-While, Whoa back

**Palatability to Livestock:**
Eaten under stress conditions.

**Toxicity to Goats:**
Moderate risk.

**Toxicity to Other Species**
Toxic to most livestock species.

**Poisonous Principle:**
Tannins, and unknown toxins.

**Effects:**
*Signs and Symptoms;*
. Diarrhoea, gastro-enteritis.

*Health and Production Problems;*
. Recovery is usually rapid.

**Treatment;**
. Be aware of potential stock problems.

**Integrated Control Strategy:**
Spot spray with a herbicide, including a wetting agent. eg, Tordon® or Brushoff®

**Comments:**
. A woody scrambling shrub up to 3metres high, some species have long thorny branches and hooked spines.
. Leaflets are long and feathery, and may be deciduous.
. Branches are drooping, slender and thin.
. Usually found in rain forest or open forest, in Queensland and NSW, also found in Western Australia.
. It has spikes of attractive yellow spidery flowers in the leaf axils, with bright red stamens, curving up and out, appearing in spring to autumn.

. Reproducing by seed, seeds and pods are toxic.
. Often planted around watering points; the seed pods often floating away to spread the seed down-stream.
. The green pods of these plants are very irritating to the gastro-intestinal tract.
. C. gilliesii is grown as an ornamental, but is now regarded as a garden escapee.
. Native to South America.

Picture; [Caesalpina spp](https://example.com)  Brushoff

**Further Reading:**
. Wilson. Some Plants are Poisonous. 1997