

Eucalyptus cladocalyx

Common name:

Sugar gum,

Palatability to Livestock:

Seldom eaten.

Toxicity to Goats:

Moderate risk.

Toxicity to Other Species:

Toxic to all grazing livestock.

Poisonous Principle:

Cyanogenetic compounds in wilted leaves.

Prunacin, prussic acid.

Effects:

Signs and symptoms;

- . Convulsions,
- . Increased heart sounds, and irregular heart rhythm,
- . Pale mucous membranes,
- . Laboured respiration,
- . Sometimes straining and diarrhoea.

Health and Production Problems;

- . Excessive weight loss.
- . Often death within 48 hours.

Treatment;

- . Nil, by the time the animal is found.

Integrated Control Strategy:

- . Grub out if necessary,
- . Basal bark treatment with Tordon®
- . Spot spray with Garlon®

Comments:

- . Cultivated as a shade or ornamental tree.
- . Native to South Australia, grown as a shade tree.
- . A tall erect tree, to 35 metres. Bark is chalky- white or yellowish, after the outer reddish-brown bark has peeled off.

- . Often growing in the bush, a fast growing tree forming a wide, dense crown.
- . Mature leaves are alternate, long and narrow, dark green and glossy.
- . Juvenile leaves opposite, rounded, and pinkish-bronze.
- . Round leaves from the suckers are more toxic than the long leaves from the mature branches.
- . Small white flower buds are in clusters of five or more in summer; buds have a ridged cap.
- . Gum nuts have a distinctive barrel shape.
- . Do not cut the tree close to the ground as the resulting coppice (new) growth is very brittle.
- . Stock should never be allowed access to this tree, or its suckers, or its dry fallen leaves.
- . Avoid letting hungry stock eat the leaves if it is wet from rain, or dew.



Picture: *Eucalyptus cladocalyx* australiaplants.com

Further Reading:

- . Everist. Poisonous Plants of Australia. 1981.
- . Kohnke. Feeding and Nutrition of Horses. 1998.
- . Mc Barron. Medical and Veterinary Aspects of Plant Poisons in NSW. 1976
- . McBarron. Poisonous Plants, Handbook. 1983.
- . Simmonds Holst and Bourke. Palatability and Potential Toxicity of Australian Weeds to Goats. 2000